Final Report

Environmental Assessment: Construct a CDC Main Entry Addition at Grand Forks Air Force Base

Prepared by

Grand Forks Air Force Base, North Dakota

319 CES/CEVA

525 Tuskegee Airmen Blvd

Grand Forks AFB ND 58205-6434

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FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
FOR
CONSTRUCTION OF CDC MAIN ENTRY ADDITION

AGENCY: Department of the Air Force

PROPOSED ACTION: The United States Air Force (USAF) proposes to construct a main entry addition to the Child Development Center on Grand Forks Air Force Base (AFB), North Dakota.

Purpose and Need: The purpose of the proposed action is to construct an addition to the northeast end of the Child Development Center (CDC), Building 168. The addition will provide a single-point main entry for both this facility and the adjacent Kiddie Campus, Building 120. The addition is needed to provide waiting area, lounge, and customer support space that is not available in the present facility.

The existing CDC facility lacks adequate space for a waiting area, lounge, and customer support area at the main entry and check-in counter. The main entry for both the CDC and Kiddie Campus facilities is currently located along an enclosed walkway connecting the two buildings. This location creates a serious child safety risk by allowing non-monitored access to the Kiddie Campus facility. The entry doors at that location will be locked for emergency exit only after the new addition is built. The addition to Bldg 168 will provide a single-point entry for both buildings, which will be under continuous surveillance from the CDC check-in counter. Child safety is paramount, and this project is needed to provide it for our Air Force members and their families.

There is a companion proposal to repair the administrative support area in the northeast end of the Child Development Center (CDC), Bldg 168. It will provide a revitalized administrative area in support of the new addition to the building and customer service area. The companion project will provide the addition to the facility and expanded customer service and waiting areas. This repair project is needed to provide a properly sized and configured administrative support area.

A related EIAP (EA) document is an Environmental Assessment and FONSI accomplished in 1998 for the proposed project to construct the walkway between the CDC and Kiddie Campus on RCS # 99-071.

Grand Forks Air Force Base must decide whether to construct a CDC main entry addition on building 168 at Grand Forks AFB.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

No Action Alternative 1: The no action alternative would be to leave the facility as it is. The existing CDC facility will continue to provide inadequate space for a waiting area, lounge, and customer support area at the main entry and check-in counter. This location will continue to be a serious child safety risk by allowing non-monitored access to the Kiddie Campus facility.

Proposed Action 2: Expand the reception area, entrance and the director's office area at the Child Development Center, Bldg 168. Expand the director's office to be used as a small meeting area and office. The present office area may be reorganized to maintain files and office storage. The addition would then include an office area for the director, plus an area in the expansion that would suffice as secure storage for files, and the Director's desk to remain in the present area. The entrance needs to expand to the North approximately 40 x 43 ft to allow visual monitoring without obstacles.

Alternative Action 3: Expand to the southwest, renovating the connected area between the CDC and Kiddie Campus. Move the administrative offices and break area to the new area, and renovate the reception area, by enlarging the entrance from the vacated offices.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

Air Quality - Air Quality is considered good and the area is in attainment for all criteria pollutants. No significant impacts to air quality would result because of construction activities.

Noise - The construction of an entrance addition to the CDC would create additional noise. The increase in noise would be negligible and only occur during construction.

Wastes, Hazardous Materials, and Stored Fuels - The increase in hazardous and solid wastes from the CDC entrance construction would be temporary. Solid waste debris would be disposed of in an approved location, such as the Grand Forks Municipal Landfill. Inert construction debris would be disposal at an approved location, such as Berger Landfill.

Water Resources – Provided best management practices (BMPs) are followed, there would be minimal impacts on stormwater, ground water and water quality. The proposed action would have no impact on wastewater.

Biological Resources – BMPs and control measures, including storm drain covers and covering of stockpiles, would be implemented to ensure that impacts to biological resources be kept to a minimum. BMPs would be required to prevent the spread of noxious weeds, minimize soil erosion, and promote the establishment of native plant species.

Socioeconomic Resources - This action would have a minor positive effect on the local economy. Secondary retail purchases would make an additional contribution to the local communities. The implementation of the proposed action, therefore, would provide a short-term, beneficial impact to local retailers during the construction phase of the project.

Cultural Resources - The proposed action has little potential to impact cultural resources. In the unlikely event any such artifacts were discovered during the construction, the operator or contractor would be instructed to halt operations and immediately notify Grand Forks AFB civil engineers who would notify the State Historic Preservation Officer.

Land Use - The proposed operation would not have an impact on land use, since the area is designated for community use.

Land Use - The proposed operation would not have an impact on land use, since the area is designated for community use.

Transportation Systems – The proposed operation would have minor adverse impact to transportation systems on base due to vehicles traveling to and from 168.

Airspace/Airfield Operations - The proposed action would not impact aircraft safety or airspace compatibility.

Safety and Occupational Health – Participants in the construction must wear appropriate personnel protective equipment (PPE).

Environmental Management – The proposed action would not impact ERP Sites. BMPs would be implemented to prevent erosion.

Environmental Justice - EO 12898 requires federal agencies to identify and address, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of their programs, policies, and activities on minority and low-income populations. There is no minority or low-income populations in the area of the proposed action or alternatives, and, thus, there would be no disproportionately high or adverse impact on such populations.

A copy of the EA was available at the Grand Forks AFB Public Affairs office. All interested agencies and persons were invited to submit written comments within thirty days from the public notice. The public notice appeared in the Grand Forks AFB Leader and the Grand Forks Herald. Comments were received from the North Dakota Department of Health, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, N.D. Game and Fish, and N.D. State Historical Society. None of the comments required changes to the proposed action of the discussion of environmental consequences in the EA.

No adverse environmental impact to any of the areas identified by the AF Form 813 is expected by the proposed action, construction of a CDC main entry addition.

CONCLUSION: Based on the Environmental Assessment performed for construction of building 168 main entry addition, no significant environmental impact is anticipated from the proposed action. Based upon this finding, an Environmental Impact Statement is not required for this action. This document and the supporting AF Form 813 fulfill the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Council of Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA, and Air Force Instruction 32-7061, which implements the CEQ regulations.

WAYNE A. KOOP, R.E.M., GM-13
Environmental Management Flight Chief

Date: 31 MAR 06

Cover Sheet

Agency: United States Air Force (USAF)

Action: The action proposes to construct an entrance addition to the CDC Building 168 at Grand Forks Air Force Base (AFB), North Dakota.

Contacts: 319 CES/CEVA
525 Tuskegee Airmen Boulevard (Blvd)
Grand Forks AFB, ND 58205

Designation: Final Environmental Assessment (EA)

Abstract: This draft EA has been prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, and assesses the potential environmental impacts to construct a CDC addition, located in Grand Forks County, North Dakota. Resource areas analyzed in the EA include Air Quality; Noise; Wastes, Hazardous Materials, and Stored Fuels; Water Resources; Biological Resources; Socioeconomic Resources; Cultural Resources; Land Use; Transportation Systems; Airspace/Airfield Operations; Safety and Occupational Health; Environmental Management; and Environmental Justice.

In addition to the Proposed Action, the Alternative Action and the No Action Alternative were analyzed in the EA. The EA also addresses the potential cumulative effects of the associated activities along with other concurrent actions at Grand Forks AFB and the surrounding area.

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ACRONYMS, ABBREVIATIONS, AND TERMS

AAM	Annual Arithmetic Mean
ACM	Asbestos Containing Material
AFB	Air Force Base
AFI	Air Force Instruction
AICUZ	Air Installation Compatible Use Zone
AMC	Air Mobility Command
APZ	Accident Potential Zone
ARPA	Archeological Resource Protection Act
ARW	Air Refueling Wing
AST	Above Ground Storage Tank
Ave	Avenue
BASH	Bird Aircraft Strike Hazard
Bldg	Building
Blvd	Boulevard
BMP	Best Management Practice
BMX	Bike Motocross
BOD	Biochemical Oxygen Demand
CAA	Clean Air Act
CDC	Child Development Center
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CES	Civil Engineering Squadron
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CO	Carbon Monoxide
CWA	Clean Water Act
dB	decibel
DBa	Decibel
DNL	Day-Night Average A-Weighted Sound Level
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIAP	Environmental Impact Analysis Process
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EO	Executive Order
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
EPCRA	Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act
ERP	Environmental Restoration Program
ESA	Endangered Species Act
F	Fahrenheit
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency

FONPA	Finding of No Practicable Alternative
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
ft	Feet
ft^3/s	feet cubed per meter
GFAFB	Grand Forks Air Force Base
HAP	Hazardous Air Pollutants
hr	Hour
H_2S	Hydrogen Sulfide
IAW	in accordance with
IRP	Installation Restoration Program
LT	Long-Term
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MFH	Military Family Housing
mph	Miles Per Hour
MSDS	Material Safety Data Sheet
MSL	Mean Sea Level
$\mu g/m^3$	Micrograms Per Meter Cubed
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NAGPRA	Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act
ND	North Dakota
NDAAQS	North Dakota National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NDAC	North Dakota Administrative Code
NDDH	North Dakota Department of Health
NDPDES	North Dakota Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NESHAP	National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants
NFPA	National Fire Protection Act
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NO_X	Nitrogen Oxides
NO_2	Nitrogen Dioxide
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NPL	National Priorities List
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NWR	National Wildlife Refuge
O_3	Ozone
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Act
OWS	Oil Water Separator
P2	Pollution Prevention
Pb	Lead

PCS	Petroleum-Contaminated Soil
PM_{10}	Particulate Matter 10 Microns in Diameter
$PM_{2.5}$	Particulate Matter 25 Microns in Diameter
POL	Petroleum Oil Lubricant
ppm	Parts Per Million
PSD	Prevention of Significant Deterioration
QA/QC	Quality Assessment and Quality Control
RACM	Regulated Asbestos Containing Materials
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RI/FS	Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
RV	Recreational Vehicle
SAGE	Strategic Air Ground Equipment
SAIC	Science Applications International Corporation
SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
SO_2	Sulfur Dioxide
SO_X	Sulfur Dioxide
St	Street
ST	Short-Term
SWMU	Solid Waste Management Unit
tpy	Tons Per Year
TSCA	Toxic Substance Control Act
TSI	Thermal System Insulation
US	United States
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USAF	United States Air Force
U.S.C.	United States Code
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
UST	Underground Storage Tank
VOC	Volatile Organic Compound

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The United States Air Force (USAF) proposes to construct a Child Development Center (CDC) entry addition on Grand Forks Air Force Base (AFB), North Dakota.

Purpose and Need: The purpose of the proposed action is to construct an addition to the northeast end of the Child Development Center (CDC), Building 168 at 1683 J St. The addition will provide a single-point main entry for both this facility and the adjacent Kiddie Campus, Building 120 at 1681 J St. The addition is needed to provide waiting area, lounge, and customer support space that is not available in the present facility.

The existing CDC facility lacks adequate space for a waiting area, lounge, and customer support area at the main entry and check-in counter. The main entry for both the CDC and Kiddie Campus facilities is currently located along an enclosed walkway connecting the two buildings. This location creates a serious child safety risk by allowing non-monitored access to the Kiddie Campus facility. The entry doors at that location will be locked for emergency exit only after the new addition is built. The addition to Bldg 168 will provide a single-point entry for both buildings, which will be under continuous surveillance from the CDC check-in counter. Child safety is paramount, and this project is needed to provide it for our Air Force members and their families.

There is a companion proposal to repair the administrative support area in the northeast end of the Child Development Center (CDC), Bldg 168. It will provide a revitalized administrative area in support of the new addition to the building and customer service area. The companion project will provide the addition to the facility and expanded customer service and waiting areas. This repair project is needed to provide a properly sized and configured administrative support area.

Grand Forks Air Force Base must decide whether to construct a CDC entry addition on Grand Forks AFB.

No Action Alternative 1: The no action alternative would be to leave the facility as it is. The existing CDC facility will continue to provide inadequate space for a waiting area, lounge, and customer support area at the main entry and check-in counter. This location will continue to be a serious child safety risk by allowing non-monitored access to the Kiddie Campus facility.

Proposed Action 2: Expand the reception area, entrance and the director's office area at the Child Development Center, Bldg 168. Expand the director’s office to be used as a small meeting area and office. The present office area may be reorganized to maintain files and office storage. The addition would then include an office area for the director, plus an area in the expansion that would suffice as secure storage for files, and the Director's desk to remain in the present area. The entrance needs to expand to the North approximately 40 x 43 ft to allow visual monitoring without obstacles.

Alternative Action 3: Expand to the southwest, renovating the connected area between the CDC and Kiddie Campus. Move the administrative offices and break area to the new area, and renovate the reception area, by enlarging the entrance from the vacated offices.

Impacts by Resource Area

Air Quality - Air Quality is considered good and the area is in attainment for all criteria pollutants. No significant impacts to air quality would result because of construction activities.

Noise - The construction of a CDC entrance addition would create additional noise. The increase in noise would be negligible and only occur during construction.

Wastes, Hazardous Materials, and Stored Fuels - The increase in hazardous and solid wastes from construction of a CDC entrance addition would be temporary. Solid waste debris would be disposed of in an approved location, such as the Grand Forks Municipal Landfill. Inert construction debris would be disposed at an approved location, such as Berger Landfill.

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Land Use - The proposed operation would not have an impact on land use, since the area is designated for community use.

Transportation Systems – The proposed operation would have minor adverse impact to transportation systems on base due to vehicles traveling to and from 168 and 120.

Airspace/Airfield Operations - The proposed action would not impact aircraft safety or airspace compatibility.

Safety and Occupational Health – Participants in the construction must wear appropriate personnel protective equipment (PPE).

Environmental Management – The proposed action would not impact ERP Sites. BMPs would be implemented to prevent erosion.

Environmental Justice - EO 12898 requires federal agencies to identify and address, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of their programs, policies, and activities on minority and low-income populations. There is no minority or low-income populations in the area of the proposed action or alternatives, and, thus, there would be no disproportionately high or adverse impact on such populations.

1.0 PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR PROPOSED ACTION

This Environmental Assessment (EA) examines the potential for impacts to the environment resulting from construction of a CDC addition on Grand Forks Air Force Base (AFB). As required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, federal agencies must consider environmental consequences in their decision making process. The EA provides analysis of the potential environmental impacts from both the proposed action and its alternatives. The proposed action was requested on Work Request number 70623. The environmental assessment is assigned RCS number 2005-185. The project number assigned is JFSD200549 and JFSD200549B.

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Located in northeastern North Dakota (ND), Grand Forks AFB is the first core refueling wing in Air Mobility Command (AMC) and home to 48 KC-135R Stratotanker aircraft. The host organization at Grand Forks AFB is the 319th Air Refueling Wing (ARW). Its mission is to guarantee global reach, by extending range in the air, supplying people and cargo where and when they are needed and provides air refueling and airlift capability support to United States Air Force (USAF) operations anywhere in the world, at any time. Organizational structure of the 319th ARW consists primarily of an operations group, maintenance group, mission support group, and medical group.

The location of the proposed action (and the alternative actions) would be at Grand Forks AFB, ND. Grand Forks AFB covers approximately 5,420 acres of government-owned land and is located in northeastern ND, about 14 miles west of Grand Forks, along United States (US) Highway 2. Grand Forks (population 49,321) is the third largest city in ND. Appendix A includes a Location Map. The city, and surrounding area, is a regional center for agriculture, education, and government. It is located approximately 160 miles south of Winnipeg, Manitoba, and 315 miles northwest of Minneapolis, Minnesota. The total base population, as of May 2004, is approximately 7,261. Of that, 2,928 are military, 3,953 are military dependents, and 380 civilians working on base (Grand Forks AFB, 2004).

1.2 NEED FOR THE ACTION

The purpose of the proposed action is to construct an addition to the northeast end of the Child Development Center (CDC), Bldg 168, 1683 J St. The addition will provide a single-point main entry for both this facility and the adjacent Kiddie Campus, Bldg 120, 1681 J St. The addition is needed to provide waiting area, lounge, and customer support space that is not available in the present facility. The proposed entrance will expand to the northeast approximately 40 x 43 feet.

The existing CDC facility lacks adequate space for a waiting area, lounge, and customer support area at the main entry and check-in counter. The main entry for both the CDC and Kiddie Campus facilities is currently located along an enclosed walkway connecting the two buildings. This location creates a serious child safety risk by allowing non-monitored access to the Kiddie Campus facility. The entry doors at that location will be locked for emergency exit only, once a consolidated entry is constructed. The addition to Bldg 168 will provide a single-point entry for

both buildings, which will be under continuous surveillance from the CDC check-in counter to allow visual monitoring without obstacles. Child safety is paramount, and this project is needed to provide it for our Air Force members and their families.

There is a companion proposal to repair the administrative support area in the northeast end of the Child Development Center (CDC), Bldg 168. It will provide a revitalized administrative area in support of the new addition to the building and customer service area. The companion project will provide the addition to the facility and expanded customer service, reception area, small meeting room, secure file storage, and director's office. The current office area will maintain the files and office storage. This repair project is needed to provide a properly sized and configured administrative support area.

A larger office area is needed for parents, staff, filing, work space and private office. The current entrance area is offset from the reception desk, and obscures the visual supervision of the door by either the desk staff or the director. The entrance needs to be enlarged to accommodate parents and a minimum ten infant car seats at one time. Entrance areas are to be visible and monitored by staff 100% to comply with child safety and protection policies. The entrance does not allow for parents to be able to store child infant seats, required by law for any child to ride in a vehicle. Using the current areas would block the entrance for emergency use. The director's office is in need of expansion. The director must meet with parents prior to admission to the Center and periodically during the child's enrollment. The director must also have confidential meetings with staff, requiring a private area. The director must maintain files as required by the US Air Force, DoD, and national accreditation. Current office space remains too small for the growing needs of the CDC.

1.3 OBJECTIVES FOR THE ACTION

The proposed project provide a larger office area for parents, staff, filing, work space and private office. It will provide a functioning entrance area that can be monitored by desk staff. It will expand the staff lounge into the present walkway to provide space for at least ten persons to take breaks at the same time. It will accommodate a refrigerator, micro wave, and table.

1.4 SCOPE OF EA

This EA identifies, describes, and evaluates the potential environmental impacts associated with construction of an entrance on the CDC building 168 on Grand Forks AFB. This analysis covers only those items listed above. It does not include any previous construction or construction of facilities, parking lots, associated water drainage structures, or other non-related construction and construction activities.

The following must be considered under the NEPA, Section 102(E).

- Air Quality
- Noise
- Wastes, Hazardous Materials, and Stored Fuels

- Water Resources
- Biological Resources
- Socioeconomic Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Land Use
- Transportation Systems
- Airspace/Airfield Operations
- Safety and Occupation Health
- Environmental Management
- Environmental Justice

1.5 DECISION(S) THAT MUST BE MADE

This EA evaluates the environmental consequences from implementing construction of a CDC entrance addition on Grand Forks AFB. NEPA requires that environmental impacts be considered prior to final decision on a proposed project. The Environmental Management Flight Chief will determine if a Finding of No Significant Impact can be signed or if an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) must be prepared. Preparation of an environmental analysis must be accomplished prior to a final decision regarding the proposed project and must be available to inform decision makers of potential environmental impacts of selecting the proposed action or any of the alternatives.

1.6 APPLICABLE REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS AND REQUIRED COORDINATION

These regulations require federal agencies to analyze potential environmental impacts of proposed actions and alternatives and to use these analyses in making decisions on a proposed action. All cumulative effects and irretrievable commitment of resources must also be assessed during this process. The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations declares that an EA is required to accomplish the following objectives:

- Briefly provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining whether to prepare an EIS or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).
- Aid in an agency's compliance with NEPA when an EIS is not necessary, and facilitate preparation of an EIS when necessary.

Air Force Instruction (AFI) 32-7061 as promulgated in 32 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 989, specifies the procedural requirements for the implementation of NEPA and the preparation of an EA. Other environmental regulatory requirements relevant to the proposed action and alternatives are also in this EA. Regulatory requirements including, but not restricted to the following programs will be assessed:

- AF Environmental Impact Analysis Process (EIAP) (32 CFR 989)
- AFI 32-7020, Environmental Restoration Program
- AFI 32-7040, Air Quality Compliance
- AFI 32-7041, Water Quality Compliance

- AFI 32-7042, Solid and Hazardous Waste Compliance
- AFI 32-7063, Air Installation Compatible Use Zone (AICUZ) Program
- AFI 32-7064, Integrated Natural Resource Management
- Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) [16 U.S.C. Sec 470a-11, et seq., as amended]
- Clean Air Act (CAA) [42 U.S.C. Sec 7401, et seq., as amended]
- Clean Water Act (CWA) [33 U.S.C. Sec 400, et seq.]
- CWA [33 U.S.C. Sec 1251, et seq., as amended]
- Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) [42 U.S.C. Sec. 9601, et seq.]
- Defense Environmental Restoration Program [10 U.S.C. Sec. 2701, et seq.]
- Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) of 1986 [42 U.S.C. Sec. 11001, et seq.]
- Endangered Species Act (ESA) [16 U.S.C. Sec 1531-1543, et seq.]
- Executive Order (EO) 11514, Protection and Enhancement of Environmental Quality as Amended by EO 11991
- EO 11988, Floodplain Management
- EO 11990, Protection of Wetlands
- EO 12372, Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs
- EO 12898, Environmental Justice
- EO 12989 Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-income Populations
- EO 13045, Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks
- Hazardous Materials Transportation Act of 1975 [49 U.S.C. Sec 1761, et seq.]
- NEPA of 1969 [42 U.S.C. Sec 4321, et seq.]
- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 [16 U.S.C. Sec 470, et seq., as amended]
- The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of 1990 [Public Law 101-601, 25 U.S.C. Sec. 3001-3013, et seq.]
- Noise Control Act of 1972 [42 U.S.C. Sec. 4901, et seq., Public Law 92-574]
- ND Air Pollution Control Act (Title 23) and Regulations
- ND Air Quality Standards (Title 33)
- ND Hazardous Air Pollutants Emission Standards (Title 33)
- Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) of 1970 [29 U.S.C. Sec. 651, et seq.]
- Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) of 1976 [42 U.S.C. Sec. 6901, et seq.]
- Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) of 1976 [15 U.S.C. Sec. 2601, et seq.]

Grand Forks AFB has a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for both waste water and storm water to cover base-wide industrial activities. Implementation of the proposed action or an alternative action would disturb less than one acre, and thus negate the need for Grand Forks AFB to obtain a separate NPDES Construction permit from the North

Dakota Department of Health (NDDH). Our general small site permit will cover this activity and needs to be tracked by the construction agent IAW the appropriate rules. The permit would allow discharge of storm water runoff until the site is stabilized by the reestablishment of vegetation or other permanent cover.

Scoping for this EA included discussion of relevant issues with members of the environmental management and bioenvironmental flights. Scoping letters requesting comments on possible issues of concern are sent to agencies with pertinent resource responsibilities. In accordance with 32 CFR 989, a copy of the final EA is submitted to the ND Division of Community Services.

Applicable regulatory requirements and required coordination include a Work Clearance Request, Stormwater Protection Plan, Dust Control Plan, Spill Control Plan, and Erosion and Sediment Control Plan with the CEV Water Program Manager and Contracting Officer.

2.0 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

2.1 INTRODUCTION

Based on the descriptions of the relevant environmental resources presented in Section 3 and the predictions and analyses presented in Section 4, this section presents a comparative summary matrix of the alternatives (the heart of the analysis), providing the decision maker and the public with a clear basis for choice among the alternatives.

This section has five parts:

- Selection Criteria for Alternatives
- Alternatives Considered but Eliminated from Detailed Study
- Detailed Descriptions of the Three Alternatives Considered
- Comparison of Environmental Effects of the Proposed Action and Alternatives
- Identification of the Preferred Alternative

2.2 SELECTION CRITERIA FOR ALTERNATIVES

Selection criteria used to evaluate the Proposed and Alternative Actions include the following:

A cost effective method to increase child development center reception space at Grand Forks AFB.

Minimum mission requirements include efficiency, effectiveness, legality, force protection and safety to meet AF requirements.

Minimum environmental standards include OSHA, AFOSH, NFPA, AFI, CFR, EPA and North Dakota standards for noise, air, water, safety, HM/HW, vegetation, cultural, geology, soils, and socioeconomic.

2.3 ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT ELIMINATED FROM DETAILED STUDY

One alternative considered was to construct a new facility for use as a child development office on base. Cost of new construction is higher, and impractical to solve a problem which can be resolved with a small addition or renovation.

2.4 DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ALTERNATIVES

This section describes the activities that would occur under three alternatives: the no action alternative, the proposed action, and action alternative. These three alternatives provide the decision maker with a reasonable range of alternatives from which to choose.

2.4.1 Alternative 1 (No Action Alternative): Status Quo

The no action alternative would be to leave the facility as it is. The existing CDC facility will continue to provide inadequate space for a waiting area, lounge, and customer support area at the main entry and check-in counter. This location will continue to be a serious child safety risk by allowing non-monitored access to the Kiddie Campus facility.

2.4.2 Alternative 2 (Proposed Action): Expand the reception area, entrance and the director's office area at the Child Development Center, Bldg 168. Expand the director's office to be used as a small meeting area and office. The present office area may be reorganized to maintain files and office storage. The addition would have to then include an office area for the director, plus an area in the expansion that would suffice as secure storage for files, and the Director's desk to remain in the present area. The entrance needs to expand to the North approximately 40 x 43 ft to allow visual monitoring without obstacles.

2.4.3 Alternative 3: Expand to the southwest, renovating the connected area between the CDC and Kiddie Campus. Move the administrative offices and break area to the new area, and renovate the reception area, by enlarging the entrance from the vacated offices.

2.5 DESCRIPTION OF PAST, PRESENT, AND REASONABLY FORESEEABLE FUTURE ACTIONS RELEVANT TO CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

Impacts from the Proposed Action would be concurrent with other actions occurring at Grand Forks AFB. There are several other construction and demolition projects occurring on Grand Forks AFB in the same time frame. These projects are addressed under separate NEPA documents. A related EIAP document is the Environmental Assessment and FONSI accomplished in 1998 for the proposed project to construct the walkway between the CDC and Kiddie Campus on RCS # 99-071. .

2.6 SUMMARY COMPARISON OF THE EFFECTS OF ALL ALTERNATIVES

Potential impacts from implementing the No Action Alternative, the Proposed Action, and Alternative are discussed in detail in Chapter 4.

2.7 IDENTIFICATION OF PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

The preferred alternative is the proposed action to construct an addition to the northeast end of the Child Development Center (CDC), Bldg 168. The addition will provide a single-point main entry for both this facility and the adjacent Kiddie Campus, Bldg 120. The addition will provide waiting area, lounge, and customer support space that is not available in the present facility.

Table 2.6.1: Summary of Environmental Impacts				
	No Action Alternative 1	Proposed Action 2	Alternative 3	
Legend: ST = short-term; LT = long-term				
Air Quality	None	Minor Adverse ST Impact	Minor Adverse ST Impact	
Noise	None	Minor Adverse ST Impact	Minor Adverse ST Impact	
Wastes, Hazardous Materials, and Stored Fuels	None	Minor Adverse ST Impact	Minor Adverse ST Impact	
Water Resources				
Ground Water	None	Minor Adverse ST Impact	Minor Adverse ST Impact	
Surface Water	None	Minor Adverse ST Impact	Minor Adverse ST Impact	
Wastewater	None	None	None	
Water Quality	None	None	None	
Wetlands	None	None	None	
Biological Resources				
Vegetation	None	Minor Adverse ST Impact	Minor Adverse ST Impact	
Noxious Weeds	None	Minor Adverse ST Impact	Minor Adverse ST Impact	
Wildlife	None	Minor Adverse ST Impact	Minor Adverse ST Impact	
Threatened and Endangered Species	None	Minor Adverse ST Impact	Minor Adverse ST Impact	
Socioeconomic Resources	None	Minor Beneficial ST Impact	Minor Beneficial ST Impact	
Cultural Resources	None	None	None	
Land Use	None	None	None	
Transportation Systems	None	Minor Adverse ST Impact	Minor Adverse ST Impact	
Airspace/Airfield Operations				
Aircraft Safety	None	None	None	
Airspace Compatibility	None	None	None	
Safety and Occupational Health	None	Minor Adverse ST Impact	Minor Adverse ST Impact	
Environmental Management				
Installation Restoration Program	None	None	None	
Geological Resources	None	None	None	
Pesticide Management	None	None	None	
Environmental Justice	None	None	None	

3.0 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

3.1 INTRODUCTION

This section succinctly describes the operational concerns and the environmental resources relevant to the decision that must be made concerning this proposed action. Environmental concerns and issues relevant to the decision to be made and the attributes of the potentially affected environment are studied in greater detail in this section. This descriptive section, combined with the definitions of the alternatives in Section 2, and their predicted effects in Section 4, establish the scientific baseline against which the decision-maker and the public can compare and evaluate the activities and effects of all the alternatives.

3.2 AIR QUALITY

Grand Forks AFB has a humid continental climate that is characterized by frequent and drastic weather changes. The summers are short and humid with frequent thunderstorms. Winters are long and severe with almost continuous snow cover. The spring and fall seasons are generally short transition periods. The average annual temperature is 40°Farenheit (F) and the monthly mean temperature varies from 6°F in January to 70°F in July. Mean annual precipitation is 19.5 inches. Rainfall is generally well distributed throughout the year, with summer being the wettest season and winter the driest. An average of 34 thunderstorm days per year is recorded, with some of these storms being severe and accompanied by hail and tornadoes. Mean annual snowfall recorded is 40 inches with the mean monthly snowfall ranging from 1.6 inches in October to 8.0 inches in March. Relative humidity averages 58 percent annually, with highest humidity being recorded in the early morning. The average humidity at dawn is 76 percent. Mean cloud cover is 48 percent in the summer and 56 percent in the winter (USAF, 2003).

Table 3.2-1: Climate Data for Grand Forks AFB, ND

	Mean Temperature (ºF) Daily			Precipitation (Inches) Monthly		
Month	Maximum	Minimum	Monthly	Mean	Maximum	Minimum
January	15	-1	6	0.7	2.4	0.1
February	21	5	13	0.5	3.2	0.0
March	34	18	26	1.0	2.9	0.0
April	53	32	41	1.5	4.0	0.0
May	69	47	56	2.5	7.8	0.5
June	77	56	66	3.0	8.1	0.8
July	81	61	70	2.7	8.1	0.5
August	80	59	67	2.6	5.5	0.1
September	70	49	57	2.3	6.2	0.3
October	56	37	44	1.4	5.7	0.1
November	34	20	26	0.7	3.3	0.0
December	20	6	12	0.6	1.4	0.0

Source: AFCCC/DOO, October 1998

Wind speed averages 10 miles per hour (mph). A maximum wind speed of 74 mph has been recorded. Wind direction is generally from the northwest during the late fall, winter, and spring, and from the southeast during the summer.

Grand Forks County is included in the ND Air Quality Control Region. This region is in attainment status for all criteria pollutants. In 1997, the ND Department of Health (NDDH) conducted an Air Quality Monitoring Survey that indicated that the quality of ambient air in ND is generally good as it is located in an attainment area (NDDH, 1998). Grand Forks AFB has the following air permits: T5-F78004 (permit to operate) issued by NDDH and a CAA Title V air emissions permit.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) established the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), which define the maximum allowable concentrations of pollutants that may be reached, but not exceeded within a given time period. The NAAQS regulates the following criteria pollutants: Ozone (O_3), carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide (NO_2), sulfur dioxide (SO_2), lead (Pb), and particulate matter. The ND Ambient Air Quality Standards (NDAAQS) were set by the State of ND. These standards are more stringent and emissions for operations in ND must comply with the Federal or State standard that is the most restrictive. There is also a standard for hydrogen sulfide (H_2S) in ND.

Prevention of significant deterioration (PSD) regulations establishes SO_2, particulate matter 10 microns in diameter (PM_{10}), and NO_2 that can be emitted above a premeasured amount in each of three class areas. Grand Forks AFB is located in a PSD Class II area where moderate, well-controlled industrial growth could be permitted. Class I areas are pristine areas and include national parks and wilderness areas. Significant increases in emissions from stationary sources (100 tons per year (tpy) of CO, 40 tpy of nitrogen oxides (NO_X), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), or sulfur oxides (SO_X), or 15 tpy of PM_{10}) and the addition of major sources requires compliance with PSD regulations. There is also a 25 ton/year level for total particulate.

Air pollutants include O_3, CO, NO_2, SO_2, Pb, and particulate matter. Ground disturbing activities create PM_{10} and particulate matter 2.5 microns in diameter ($PM_{2.5}$). Combustion creates CO, SO_2, $PM_{10,}$ and $PM_{2.5}$ particulate matter and the precursors (VOC and NO_2) to O_3. Only small amounts of Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAP) are generated from internal combustion processes or earth-moving activities. The Grand Forks AFB Final Emissions Survey Report (USAF, 1996) reported that Grand Forks AFB only generated small levels HAPs, 10.3 tpy of combined HAPs and 2.2 tpy maximum of a single HAP (methyl ethyl ketone). Methyl Ethyl Ketone is associated with aircraft and vehicle maintenance and repair. Secondary sources include fuel storage and dispensing (USAF, 2001a).

Table 3.2-2
National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and ND Ambient Air Quality Standards (NDAAQS)

Pollutant	Averaging Time	NAAQS $\mu g/m^3$ (ppm)[a]		NDAAQS $\mu g/m^3$ (ppm)[a]
		Primary[b]	Secondary[c]	
O_3	1 hr	235 (0.12)	Same	Same
	8 hr[e]	157 (0.08)	Same	None
CO	1 hr	40,000 (35)	None	40,000 (35)
	8 hr	10,000 (9)	None	10,000 (9)
NO_2	AAM[d]	100 (0.053)	Same	Same
SO_2	1 hr	None	None	715 (0.273)
	3 hr	None	1,300 (0.5)	None
	24 hr	365 (0.14)	None	260 (0.099)
	AAM	80 (0.03)	None	60 (0.023)
PM_{10}	AAM	50	Same	Same
	24 hr	150	Same	Same
$PM_{2.5}$[e]	AAM	65	Same	None
	24 hr	15	Same	None
Pb	¼ year	1.5	Same	Same
H_2S	1 hr	None	None	280 (0.20)
	24 hr	None	None	140 (0.10)
	3 mth	None	None	28 (0.02)
	AAM	None	None	14 (10)
	Instantaneous			14 (10)

[a] $\mu g/m^3$ – micrograms per cubic meter; ppm – parts per million
[b] National Primary Standards establish the level of air quality necessary to protect the public health from any known or anticipated adverse effects of pollutant, allowing a margin of safety to protect sensitive members of the population.
[c] National Secondary Standards establish the level of air quality necessary to protect the public welfare by preventing injury to agricultural crops and livestock, deterioration of materials and property, and adverse impacts on the environment.
[d] AAM – Annual Arithmetic Mean.
[e] The Ozone 8-hour standard and the PM 2.5 standards are included for information only. A 1999 federal court ruling blocked implementation of these standards, which USEPA proposed in 1997. USEPA has asked the US Supreme Court to reconsider that decision (USEPA, 2000).
PM_{10} is particulate matter equal to or less than 10 microns in diameter.
$PM_{2.5}$ is particulate matter equal to or less than 2.5 microns in diameter.
Source: 40 CFR 50, ND Air Pollution Control Regulations – North Dakota Administrative Code (NDAC) 33-15

3.3 NOISE

Noise generated on Grand Forks AFB consists mostly of aircraft, vehicular traffic and construction activity. Most noise is generated from aircraft during takeoff and landing and not from ground traffic. Noise levels are dependent upon type of aircraft, type of operations, and distance from the observer to the aircraft. Duration of the noise is dependent upon proximity of the aircraft, speed, and orientation with respect to the observer.

Table 3.3-1
Typical Decibel Levels Encountered in the Environment and Industry

Sound Level (dBa)[a]	Maximum Exposure Limits	Source of Noise	Subjective Impression
10			Threshold of hearing
20		Still recording studio; Rustling leaves	
30		Quiet bedroom	
35		Soft whisper at 5 ft[b]; Typical library	
40		Quiet urban setting (nighttime); Normal level in home	Threshold of quiet
45		Large transformer at 200 ft	
50		Private business office; Light traffic at 100 ft; Quiet urban setting (daytime)	
55		Window air conditioner; Men's clothing department in store	Desirable limit for outdoor residential area use (EPA)
60		Conversation speech; Data processing center	
65		Busy restaurant; Automobile at 100 ft	Acceptable level for residential land use
70		Vacuum cleaner in home; Freight train at 100 ft	Threshold of moderately loud
75		Freeway at 10 ft	
80		Ringing alarm clock at 2 ft; Kitchen garbage disposal; Loud orchestral music in large room	Most residents annoyed
85		Printing press; Boiler room; Heavy truck at 50 ft	Threshold of hearing damage for prolonged exposure
90	8 hr[c]	Heavy city traffic	
95	4 hr	Freight train at 50 ft; Home lawn mower	
100	2 hr	Pile driver at 50 ft; Heavy diesel equipment at 25 ft	Threshold of very loud
105	1 hr	Banging on steel plate; Air Hammer	
110	0.5 hr	Rock music concert; Turbine condenser	
115	0.25 hr	Jet plane overhead at 500 ft	
120	< 0.25 hr	Jet plane taking off at 200 ft	Threshold of pain
135	< 0.25 hr	Civil defense siren at 100 ft	Threshold of extremely loud

[a]dBA – decibals
[b]ft – feet
[c]hr - hours
Source: US Army, 1978

Table 3.3-2
Approximate Sound Levels (dBa) of Construction Equipment

Equipment Type	Sound Levels (dBa) at Various Distances (ft)					
	50	100	200	400	800	1,600
Front-end Loader	84	78	72	66	60	54
Dump Truck	83	77	71	65	59	53
Truck	83	77	71	65	59	53
Tractor	84	78	72	66	58	52

Source: Thurman, 1976; US Army, 1978

Because military installations attract development in proximity to their airfields, the potential exists for urban encroachment and incompatible development. The USAF utilizes a program known as AICUZ to help alleviate noise and accident potential problems due to unsuitable community development. AICUZ recommendations give surrounding communities alternatives to help prevent urban encroachment. Noise contours are developed from the Day-Night Average A-Weighted Sound Level (DNL) data which defines the noise created by flight operations and ground-based activities. The AICUZ also defines Accident Potential Zones (APZs), which are rectangular corridors extending from the ends of the runways. Recommended land use activities and densities in the APZs for residential, commercial, and industrial uses are provided in the base's AICUZ study. Grand Forks AFB takes measures to minimize noise levels by evaluating aircraft operations. Blast deflectors are utilized in designated areas to deflect blast and minimize exposure to noise.

3.4 WASTES, HAZARDOUS MATERIALS, AND STORED FUELS

3.4.1 Hazardous Waste, Hazardous Material, Recyclable Material

Hazardous wastes, as listed under the RCRA, are defined as any solid, liquid, contained gaseous, or combination of wastes that pose a substantive or potential hazard to human health or the environment. On-base hazardous waste generation involves three types of on-base sites: an accumulation point (90-day), satellite accumulation points, and spill cleanup equipment and materials storage (USAF, 2001c). Discharge and emergency response equipment is maintained in accessible areas throughout Grand Forks AFB. The Fire Department maintains adequate fire response and discharge control and containment equipment. Equipment stores are maintained in buildings 409 and 530. Petroleum contaminated soils generated from excavations throughout the base can be treated at the land treatment facility located on base. These solid wastes are tilled or turned several times a year to remediate the soils to acceptable levels.

Recyclable materials from industrial facilities are collected in the recycling facility, in building 671. Paper, cardboard, and wood are collected in separate storage bins. Glass, plastics and metal cans are commingled. Curbside containers are used in housing for recyclable materials. A contractor collects these materials and transports them off base for processing.

The Environmental Management Flight manages the hazardous material through a contract with Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC). Typical hazardous materials include reactive materials such as explosives, ignitables, toxics, and corrosives. Improper storage can impact human health and the safety of the environment.

3.4.2 Underground and Above Ground Storage Tanks

Since Grand Forks AFB is a military installation with a flying mission, there are several aboveground and underground fuel storage tanks (ASTs and USTs).

Gasoline, diesel fuel, heating fuel, JP-8 aircraft fuel, and oil-water separator (OWS)-recovered oils are stored in thirty-nine (39) USTs. Twenty (20) regulated USTs include three (3) gasoline tanks, eight (8) diesel tanks, three (3) JP-8 tanks, and six (6) OWS product recovery tanks.

Deferred USTs include five (5) JP-8 tanks. Five (5) USTs exempt from regulation include one (1) heating oil tank, three (3) emergency spill containment tanks, and one (1) hydraulic oil recovery tank.

Gasoline, diesel fuel, heating oil, JP-8, and used oil are stored in fifty-eight (58) ASTs. The majority of petroleum is JP-8 stored in six (6) tanks with a capacity of 3,990,000 gallons for the hydrant fuel system. Diesel fuel is stored in forty-five (45) tanks primarily for emergency generators. Other tanks include: heating oil stored in three (2) tanks; gasoline stored in two (2) tanks; and, used oil stored in three (3) tanks. All ASTs either have secondary containment or are programmed to have secondary containment installed. The six (6) hydrant fuel system tanks each are contained by a concrete dike system.

Runway deicing fluid (potassium acetate) is stored in two (2) 5000 gallon tanks while aircraft deicing fluid (propylene glycol) is stored in a 20,000 gallon tank (Type I) and a 4,000 gallon tank (Type IV).

3.4.3 Solid Waste Management

Hard fill, construction debris, and inert waste generated by Grand Forks AFB are disposed of at a permitted off-base landfill. All on-base household garbage and solid waste is collected by a contractor and transported to the Grand Forks County Landfill, which opened in 1982.

The majority of construction debris is disposed of at Berger Landfill (permit number IT-198) while municipal waste and asbestos waste is disposed of at the Grand Forks Landfill (SW-069).

GFAFB also operates a land treatment facility (IT-183) for the remediation of petroleum-contaminated soils (PCSs). PCSs are generated on-base through spills, are encountered while excavating for various subsurface repairs, or encountered while replacing or removing underground storage tanks and piping.

3.5 WATER RESOURCES

3.5.1 Ground Water

Chemical quality of ground water is dependent upon the amount and type of dissolved gases, minerals, and organic material leached by water from surrounding rocks as it flows from recharge to discharge areas. The water table depth varies throughout the base, from a typical 1-3 ft to 10 ft or more below the surface.

Even though the Dakota Aquifer has produced more water than any other aquifer in Grand Forks County, the water is very saline and generally unsatisfactory for domestic and most industrial uses. Its primary use is for livestock watering. It is sodium chloride type water with total dissolved solids concentrations of about 4,400 ppm. The water generally contains excessive chloride, iron, sulfate, total dissolved solids, and fluoride. The water from the Dakota is highly toxic to most domestic plants and small grain crops, and in places, the water is too highly mineralized for use as livestock water (Hansen and Kume, 1970).

Water from wells tapping the Emerado Aquifer near Grand Forks AFB is generally of poor quality due to upward leakage of poor quality water from underlying bedrock aquifers. It is sodium sulfate type water with excessive hardness, chloride, sulfate, and total dissolved solids. Water from the Lake Agassiz beach aquifers is usually of good chemical quality in Grand Forks County. The water is a calcium bicarbonate type that is relatively soft. The total dissolved content ranges from 308 to 1,490 ppm. Most water from beach aquifers is satisfactory for industrial, livestock, and agricultural uses (Hansen and Kume, 1970).

Grand Forks AFB draws 85 to 90 percent of its water for industrial, commercial and housing functions from the City of Grand Forks and 10 to 15 percent from Agassiz Water.

3.5.2 Surface Water

Natural surface water features located on or near Grand Forks AFB are the Turtle River and Kellys Slough National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). Drainage from surface water channels ultimately flows into the Red River.

The Turtle River, crossing the base boundary at the northwest corner, is very sinuous and generally flows in a northeasterly direction. It receives surface water runoff from the western portion of Grand Forks AFB and eventually empties into the Red River of the North that flows north to Lake Winnipeg, Canada. The Red River drainage basin is part of the Hudson Bay drainage system. At Manvel, ND, approximately 10 miles northeast of Grand Forks AFB, the mean discharge of the Turtle River is 50.3 feet cubed per second (ft^3/s). Peak flows result from spring runoff in April and minimum flows (or no flow in some years) occur in January and February.

NDDH has designated the Turtle River to be a Class II stream, it may be intermittent, but, when flowing, the quality of the water, after treatment, meets the chemical, physical, and bacteriological requirements of the NDDH for municipal use. The designation also states that it is of sufficient quality to permit use for irrigation, for propagation of life for resident fish species, and for boating, swimming, and other water recreation.

Kelly's Slough NWR occupies a wide, marshy flood plain with a poorly defined stream channel, approximately two miles east and downstream of Grand Forks AFB. Kellys Slough NWR receives surface water runoff from the east half of the base and effluent from the base sewage lagoons located east of the base. Surface water flow of the slough is northeasterly into the Turtle River Drainage from surface water channels ultimately flowing into the Red River. Floodplains are limited to an area 250 ft on either side of Turtle River (about 46 acres on base). Appendix C contains a map depicting floodplains. Any development in or modifications to floodplains must be coordinated with the Corps of Engineers and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The North Dakota State Water Commission requires that any structure in the floodplain have its lowest floor above the identified 100-year flood level.

Surface water runoff leaves Grand Forks AFB at four primary locations related to identifiable drainage areas on base. The four sites are identified as northeast, northwest, west, and southeast related to the base proper. These outfalls were approved by the NDDH as stated in the Grand

Forks AFB ND Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NDPDES) Permit NDR02-0314 Stormwater Discharges from Industrial Activity. Of the four outfall locations, the west and northwest sites flow into the Turtle River, the northeast site flows to the north ditch and the southeast outfall flows into the south ditch. The latter two flow to Kellys Slough and then the Turtle River. All drainage from these surface water channels ultimately flows into the Red River. The Bioenvironmental Engineering Office samples the four outfall locations during months when de-icing activities occur on base.

3.5.3 Waste Water

Grand Forks AFB discharges its domestic and industrial wastewater to four stabilization lagoons located east of the main base. The four separate treatment cells consist of one primary treatment cell, two secondary treatment cells, and one tertiary treatment cell. Wastewater effluent is discharged under ND Permit ND0020621 into Kellys Slough. Wastewater discharge occurs for about one week, sometime between mid-April though October. Industrial wastewater at the base comprises less than ten percent of the total flow to the treatment lagoons.

3.5.4 Water Quality

According to the National Water Quality Inventory Report (USEPA, 1995), ND reports the majority of rivers and streams have good water quality. Natural conditions, such as low flows, can contribute to violations of water quality standards. During low flow periods, the rivers are generally too saline for domestic use. Grand Forks AFB receives water from Grand Forks and Lake Agassiz Water. The city recovers its water from the Red River and the Red Lake River, while the water association provides water from aquifers. The water association recovers water from well systems within glacial drift aquifers (USAF, 1999). The 319th Civil Engineering Squadron tests the water received on base daily for fluorine and chlorine. The 319th Bioenvironmental Flight collects monthly bacteriological samples to be analyzed at the ND State Laboratory.

3.5.5 Wetlands

About 246,900 acres in the county are drained wetland Type I (wet meadow) to Type V (open freshwater). Approximately 59,500 acres of wetland Type I to V are used for wetland habitat. Wetland Types IV and V include areas of inland saline marshes and open saline water. Kellys Slough NWR occupies a wide, marshy flood plain with a poorly defined stream channel, approximately two miles east and downstream of Grand Forks AFB. Kellys Slough NWR is the most important regional wetland area in the Grand Forks vicinity. EO 11990 requires zero loss of wetlands. Earlier surveys indicated Grand Forks AFB had 49 wetlands, covering 23.9 acres of wetlands, including 33 jurisdictional wetlands covering 12.2 acres. A wetland delineation conducted in 2004 indicated that the base had increased to 198 wetlands, including 164 Palustrine Emergent, 31 Palustrine Scrub-Shrub, and 3 Palustrine Forested type wetlands. Vegetation is robust at GFAFB wetlands, and they are characterized as typical prairie potholes found within the northern plains ecoregion.

Wetlands on Grand Forks AFB occur frequently in drainage ways, low-lying depressions, and prairie potholes. Wetlands are highly concentrated in drainage ways leading from the wastewater treatment lagoons to Kellys Slough NWR. The majority of wetland areas occur in the northern and central portions of base, near the runway, while the remaining areas are near the eastern boundary and southeastern corner of base. Development in or near these areas must include coordination with the ND State Water Commission and the USACE. To help preserve wetlands, the North Dakota, Grand Forks County regional office of the Natural Resource Conservation Service recommends a 100-ft vegetated (grass) buffer with a perimeter filter strip.

3.6 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

3.6.1 Vegetation

Plants include a large variety of naturally occurring native plants. Hay land, wildlife management areas, waterfowl production areas, neighboring wildlife refuges, state parks, and conservation reserve program land have created excellent grassland and wetland habitats for wildlife in Grand Forks County. Pastures, meadows, and other non-cultivated areas create a prairie-land mosaic of grasses, legumes, and wild herbaceous plants. Included in the grasses and legumes vegetation species are tall wheat grass, brome grass, Kentucky bluegrass, sweet clover, and alfalfa. Herbaceous plants include little bluestem, goldenrod, green needle grass, western wheat grass, and bluegrama. Shrubs such as Juneberry, dogwood, hawthorn, buffaloberry, and snowberry also are found in the area. In wetland areas, predominant species include Typha sp., smartweed, wild millet, cord grass, bulrushes, sedges, and reeds. These habitats for upland wildlife and wetland wildlife attract a variety of species to the area and support many aquatic species.

Various researchers, most associated with the University of ND, have studied current native floras in the vicinity of the base. The Natural Heritage Inventory through field investigations has identified ten natural communities occurring in Grand Forks County (1994). Of these, two communities are found within base boundaries, River/Creek and Lowland Woodland. The River/Creek natural community refers to the Turtle River. This area is characterized by submergent and emergent aquatic plants, green algae, diatoms, diverse invertebrate animals such as sponges, flatworms, nematode worms, segmented worms, snails, clams, and immature and adult insects, fish, amphibians, turtles, and aquatic birds and mammals. Dominant trees in the Lowland Community include elm, cottonwood, and green ash. Dutch elm disease has killed many of the elms. European buckthorn (a highly invasive exotic species), chokecherry, and wood rose (Rosa woodsii) are common in the under story in this area. Wood nettle (Laportea canadensis), stinging nettle (Urtica dioica), beggars' ticks (Bidens frondosa), and waterleaf (Hydrophyllum viginianum) are typical forbes.

A prairie restoration project in the "Prairie View Nature Preserve" has been developed to restore a part of the native tallgrass prairie that once was dominant in this region. Plants thriving in this preserve include western wheatgrass, slender wheatgrass, big bluestem, little bluestem, Indian grass, switchgrass, blue gramma, buffalo grass, and many native wildflower species. The Grand Forks AFB Natural Resources Manager and volunteers installed a butterfly garden in the Prairie

View Nature Preserve in the fall of 2005, on National Public Lands Day. Volunteers helped plant the 1,300 square foot garden with about 50 different perennial varieties and shrubs.

Two hundred and fifty five taxa were identified in the ND Natural Heritage Inventory and the BS Bioserve biological inventory update for Grand Forks Air Force Base. Two rare orchid species are known to exist on Grand Forks AFB, the Large and Small Yellow Lady's Slipper, identified during the 2004 inventory.

3.6.2 Wildlife

Grand Forks County is agrarian in nature, however it does have many wildlife management areas, waterfowl production areas, conservation reserve program land, and recreational areas providing excellent habitat for local wildlife within the county. Kellys Slough NWR is located a couple miles northeast of Grand Forks AFB. In addition to being a wetland, it is a stopover point for thousands of migratory birds, especially shorebirds. The Prairie Chicken Wildlife Management Area is located north of Mekinock and contains 1,160 acres of habitat for deer, sharp-tailed grouse, and game birds. Wildlife can also be found at the Turtle River State Park, The Bremer Nature Trail, and the Myra Arboretum.

The base supports a remarkable diversity of wildlife given its size and location within an agricultural matrix. The Turtle River riparian corridor, Prairie View Nature Preserve, grassland areas on the west side of the base, and the lagoons to the east of the base all provide important habitat for native plant and wildlife species and should be conserved as such within mission constraints. Many mammalian species are found on base such as the white tail deer, eastern cottontail, coyotes, beaver, raccoons, striped skunks, badgers, voles, gophers, shrews, mice, muskrat, squirrels, bats, and occasional moose and bear.

One hundred seventy bird species were identified in the 2004 biological survey, many of which include grassland bird species. Grassland bird populations are declining across North America due to huge losses of prime grassland habitat from conversion to agricultural, urban, and industrial development. No other avian group has experienced such dramatic losses as grassland birds. GFAFB is fortunate to support a large variety of grassland birds, many of which are listed on the Partners-in-Flight species of concern list, such as the grasshopper sparrow. Large blocks of grassland should be conserved to protect these grassland bird species if the mission constraints allow it.

3.6.3 Threatened and Endangered Species

According to the Biological Survey Update 2004 of GFAFB, 21 state-listed birds and 1 federally listed bird species, 2 state-listed plant species, 1 state-listed mammal species, and 1 state-listed amphibian have been identified at GFAFB. The base does have infrequent use by migratory threatened and endangered species, such as the bald eagle, but there are no critical or significant habitats for those species present. Several rare and state-listed species have been observed on base near Turtle River, the lagoons, and the grassland to the west of the airfield. The ESA does require that Federal Agencies not jeopardize the existence of a threatened or endangered species nor destroy or adversely modify designated critical habitat for threatened or endangered species.

3.7 SOCIOECONOMIC RESOURCES

Grand Forks County is primarily an agricultural region and, as part of the Red River Valley, is one of the worlds most fertile. Cash crops include sugar beets, beans, corn, barley, and oats. The valley ranks first in the nation in the production of potatoes, spring wheat, sunflowers, and durum wheat. Grand Forks County's population in 2000 was 66,109, a decrease of 6.5 percent from the 1990 population of 70,638 (ND State Data Center, No Date). Grand Forks County's annual mean wage in Oct 2001 was $26,715 (Job Service of ND, 2001). Grand Forks AFB is one of the largest employers in Grand Forks County. As of Sep 2003, Grand Forks AFB had 2,928 active duty military members and 380 civilian employees. The total annual economic impact for Grand Forks AFB is $379,000,000.

3.8 CULTURAL RESOURCES

According to the Grand Forks AFB Cultural Resources Management Plan, there are no archeological sites that are potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). A total of six archeological sites and six archeological find spots have been identified on the base. None meet the criteria of eligibility of the NRHP established in 36 CFR 60.4. There is no evidence for Native American burial grounds, or other culturally sensitive areas. Paleosols (soil that developed on a past landscape) remain a management concern requiring Section 106 compliance. Reconnaissance-level archival and archeological surveys of Grand Forks AFB conducted by the University of ND in 1989 indicated that there are no facilities (50 years or older) that possess historical significance. The base is currently consulting with the ND Historical Society on the future use of eight Cold War Era facilities. These are buildings 313, 606, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, and 714.

3.9 LAND USE

Land use in Grand Forks County consists primarily of cultivated crops with remaining land used for pasture and hay, urban development, recreation, and wildlife habitat. Principal crops are spring wheat, barley, sunflowers, potatoes, and sugar beets. Turtle River State Park, developed as a recreation area in Grand Forks County, is located about five miles west of the base. Several watershed protection dams are being developed for recreation activities including picnicking, swimming, and ball fields. Wildlife habitat is very limited in the county. Kellys Slough NWR (located about two miles east of the base) and the adjacent National Waterfowl Production Area are managed for wetland wildlife and migratory waterfowl, but they also include a significant acreage of open land wildlife habitat.

The main base encompasses 5,420 acres, of which the USAF owns 4,830 acres and another 590 acres are lands containing easements, permits, and licenses. Improved grounds, consisting of all covered area (under buildings and sidewalks), land surrounding base buildings, the 9-hole golf course, recreational ball fields, and the family housing area, encompass 1,120 acres. Semi-improved grounds, including the airfield, fence lines and ditch banks, skeet range, and riding stables account for 1,390 acres. The remaining 2,910 acres of the installation consist of unimproved grounds. These areas are comprised of woodlands, open space, and wetlands,

including four lagoons (180.4 acres) used for the treatment of base wastewater. Agricultural out leased land (1,040 acres) is also classified as unimproved. Land use at the base is solely urban in nature, with residential development to the south and cropland, hayfields, and pastures to the north, west, and east of the base.

3.10 TRANSPORATION SYSTEMS

Seven thousand vehicles per day travel ND County Road B3 from Grand Forks AFB's east gate to the US Highway 2 Interchange (Clayton, 2001). Two thousand vehicles per day use the off-ramp from US Highway 2 onto ND County Road B3 (Dunn, 2001). US Highway 2, east of the base interchange, handles 10,800 vehicles per day. (Kingsley and Kuntz, 2001). A four lane arterial road has a capacity of 6,000 vehicles per hour and a two lane, 3,000, based on the average capacity of 1,500 vehicles per hour per lane. Roadways adjacent to Grand Forks AFB are quite capable of accommodating existing traffic flows (USAF, 2001a).

Grand Forks AFB has good traffic flow even during peak hours (6-8 am and 4-6 pm). There are two gates: the main gate located off of County Road B3, about one mile north of U.S. Highway 2 and the Secondary Gate located off of U.S. Highway 2, about 3/4 mile west of County Road B3. The main gate is connected to Steen Boulevard (Blvd), which is the main east-west road, and serves the passenger traffic; and the south gate is connected to Eielson Street (St), which is the main north-south road and serves the truck traffic.

3.11 AIRSPACE/AIRFIELD OPERATIONS

3.11.1 AIRCRAFT SAFETY

Bird Aircraft Strike Hazard (BASH) is a major safety concern for military aircraft. Collision with birds may result in aircraft damage and aircrew injury, which may result in high repair costs or loss of the aircraft. A BASH hazard exists at Grand Forks AFB and its vicinity, due to resident and migratory birds. Daily and seasonal bird movements create various hazardous conditions. Although BASH problems are minimal, Kellys Slough NWR is a major stopover for migratory birds. Canadian Geese and other large waterfowl have been seen in the area (USAF, 2001b).

3.11.2 AIRSPACE COMPATIBILITY

The primary objective of airspace management is to ensure the best possible use of available airspace to meet user needs and to segregate requirements that are incompatible with existing airspace or land uses. The Federal Aviation Administration has overall responsibility for managing the nation's airspace and constantly reviews civil and military airspace needs to ensure all interests are compatibly served to the greatest extent possible. Airspace is regulated and managed through use of flight rules, designated aeronautical maps, and air traffic control procedures and separation criteria.

3.12 SAFETY AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Safety and occupational health issues include one-time and long-term exposure. Examples include asbestos/radiation/chemical exposure, explosives safety quantity-distance, and bird/wildlife aircraft hazard. Safety issues include injuries or deaths resulting from a one-time accident. Aircraft Safety includes information on birds/wildlife aircraft hazards and the BASH program. Health issues include long-term exposure to chemicals such as asbestos and lead-based paint. Safety and occupational health concerns could impact personnel working on the project and in the surrounding area.

The National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) of the CAA designates asbestos as HAP. OSHA provides worker protection for employees who work around or asbestos containing material (ACM). Regulated ACM (RACM) includes thermal system insulation (TSI), any surfacing material, and any friable asbestos material. Non-regulated Category I non-friable ACM includes floor tile and joint compound.

Lead exposure can result from paint chips or dust or inhalation of lead vapors from torch-cutting operations. This exposure can affect the human nervous system. Due to the size of children, exposure to lead based paint is especially dangerous to small children. OSHA considers all painted surfaces in which lead is detectable to have a potential for occupational health exposure.

3.13 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

3.13.1 ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM

The Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) is the AF's environmental restoration program based on the CERCLA. CERCLA provides for Federal agencies with the authority to inventory, investigate, and clean up uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous waste sites. There are seven ERP sites at Grand Forks AFB. These sites are identified as potentially impacted by past hazardous material or hazardous waste activities. They are the Fire Training Area/Old Sanitary Landfill Area, FT-02; New Sanitary Landfill Area, LF-03; Strategic Air Ground Equipment (SAGE) Building 306, ST-04; Explosive Ordnance Detonation Area, OT-05; Refueling Ramps and Pads, Base Tanks Area, ST-06; POL Off-Loading Area, ST-07; and Refueling Ramps and Pads, ST-08 (USAF, 1997b). Two sites are considered closed, OT-05 and ST-06. ST-08 has had a remedial investigation/feasibility study (RI/FS) completed and the rest are in long-term monitoring. Grand Forks AFB is not on the National Priorities List (NPL)

3.13.2 GEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

3.13.2.1 Physiography and Topography

The topography of Grand Forks County ranges from broad, flat plains to gently rolling hills that were produced mainly by glacial activity. Local relief rarely exceeds 100 ft in one mile, and, in parts of the lake basin, less than five ft in one mile.

Grand Forks AFB is located within the Central Lowlands physiographic province. The topography of Grand Forks County, and the entire Red River Valley, is largely a result of the former existence of Glacial Lake Agassiz, which existed in this area during the melting of the

last glacier, about 12,000 years ago (Stoner et al., 1993). The eastern four-fifths of Grand Forks County, including the base, lies in the Agassiz Lake Plain District, which extends westward to the Pembina escarpment in the western portion of the county. The escarpment separates the Agassiz Lake Plain District from the Drift Plain District to the west. Glacial Lake Agassiz occupied the valley in a series of recessive lake stages, most of which were sufficient duration to produce shoreline features inland from the edge of the lake. Prominent physiographic features of the Agassiz Lake Plain District are remnant lake plains, beaches, inter-beach areas, and delta plains. Strandline deposits, associated with fluctuating lake levels, are also present and are indicated by narrow ridges of sand and gravel that typically trend northwest-southwest in Grand Forks County.

Grand Forks AFB lies on a large lake plain in the eastern portion of Grand Forks County. The lake plain is characterized by somewhat poorly drained flats and swells, separated by poorly drained shallow swells and sloughs (Doolittle et al., 1981). The plain is generally level, with local relief being less that one foot. Land at the base is relatively flat; with elevations ranging from 880 to 920 ft mean sea level (MSL) and averaging about 890 ft MSL. The land slopes to the north at less than 12 ft per mile.

3.13.2.2 Soil Type Condition

Soils consist of the Gilby loam series that are characterized by deep, somewhat poorly drained, moderately to slowly permeable soils in areas between beach ridges. The loam can be found from 0 to 12 inches. From 12 to 26 inches, the soil is a mixture of loam, silt loam, and very fine sandy loam. From 26 to 60 inches, the soil is loam and clay loam.

3.13.3 PESTICIDE MANAGEMENT

Pesticides are handled at various facilities including Environmental Controls, Golf Course Maintenance, and Grounds Maintenance. Other organizations assist in the management of pesticides and monitoring or personnel working with pesticides. Primary uses are for weed and mosquito control. Herbicides, such as picloram, nonselective glyphosate and 2, 4-D are used to maintain areas on base. Military Public Health and Bioenvironmental Engineering provide information on the safe handling, storage, and use of pesticides. Military Public Health maintains records on all pesticide applicators. The Fire Department on-base provides emergency response in the event of a spill, fire, or similar type incident.

3.14 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Environmental justice addresses the minority and low-income characteristics of the area, in this case Grand Forks County. The county is more than 93 percent Caucasian, 2.3 percent Native American, 1.4 percent African-American, 1 percent Asian/Pacific Islander, less than 1 percent Other, and 1.6 percent “Two or more races”. In comparison, the US is 75.2 percent Caucasian, 12.3 African-American, 0.9 percent Native American or Native Alaskan, 3.6 percent Asian, 0.1 Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, 5.5 percent Other, and 2.4 percent “Two or more races”. Approximately 12.5 percent of the county’s population is below the poverty level in comparison to 13.3 percent of the state (US Bureau of the Census, 2002). There are few residences and no

concentrations of low-income or minority populations around Grand Forks AFB.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

4.1 INTRODUCTION

The effects of the proposed action and the alternatives on the affected environment are discussed in this section. The project involves construction of an addition to building 168 on Grand Forks AFB.

4.2 AIR QUALITY

4.2.1 Alternative 1 (No Action)

The no action alternative would not impact air quality.

4.2.2 Alternatives 2 (Proposed Action)

No long-term effects; however short term effects involve heavy construction equipment emissions (not a concern as they are mobile sources) and fugitive dust (mentioned on our Title V permit). Air Quality is considered good and the area is in attainment for all criteria pollutants. Fugitive emissions from construction activities are expected to be below the regulatory threshold and would be managed in accordance with NDAC 33-15-17-03. Best management practices (BMPs) to reduce fugitive dust emissions would be implemented to reduce the amount of these emissions.

4.2.3 Alternative 3

Impacts would be similar to those generated under the proposed action.

4.3 NOISE

4.3.1 Alternative 1 (No Action)

The no action alternative would not impact noise generation.

4.3.2 Alternative 2 (Proposed Action)

The short-term operation of heavy equipment in the construction area would generate additional noise. These noise impacts would exist only during operations and would cease after completion. The increase in noise from activities would not be significant.

4.3.3 Alternative 3

Impacts would be similar to those generated under the proposed action.

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4.4 WASTES, HAZARDOUS MATERIALS, AND STORED FUELS

4.4.1 Alternative 1 (No Action)

The no action alternative would not impact hazardous or solid waste generation.

4.4.2 Alternative 2 (Proposed Action)

The increase in hazardous and solid wastes from construction of an addition to building 168 would be temporary. A small amount of debris would be generated. Solid waste debris would be disposed of in approved location, such as the Grand Forks Municipal Landfill, which is located within 12 miles of the proposed site. Bldg 168 was built in 1992 and bldg 120 was built in 1966. Ceiling tile, twelve inch floor tile and mechanical room sheetrock in Building 120 is assumed to be asbestos-containing-material. All measures will be taken to minimize the disturbance of any asbestos-containing material and prevent any asbestos fiber release episodes in all areas. Removal of any friable asbestos-containing material will be accomplished in accordance with section 33-15-13-02 of the North Dakota air pollution control rules. All solid waste materials would be managed and transported in accordance with the state's solid and hazardous waste rules. Appropriate efforts to reduce, reuse and/or recycle waste materials are encouraged by the State of North Dakota. Inert waste should be segregated from non-inert waste, where possible, to reduce the cost of waste management.

Since Building 120 was constructed prior to 1978, it is assumed there may be interior or exterior subsurfaces coated with lead-base paint. The addition to bldg 168 should not impact bldg 120. However, in the event there is contact with 120, the removal of lead-based paint must be properly handled to reduce or prevent exposing workers and building occupants to lead. The materials must be handled by properly trained individuals for removal and disposal.

4.4.3 Alternative 3

Impacts would be similar to those generated under the proposed action.

4.5 WATER RESOURCES

4.5.1 Alternative 1 (No Action Alternative)

The no action alternative would have no impact on groundwater, surface water, wastewater, water quality, or wetlands.

4.5.2 Alternative 2 (Proposed Alternative)

Groundwater: Excavation could potentially intercept the high water table. If the excavated area fills with groundwater, water could be directly exposed to contaminants released from construction equipment. The potential for release is minimal.

Surface Water: Surface water quality could degrade in the short-term, during actual construction, due to possible erosion contributing to turbidity of runoff. Surface water could also be impacted if, due to ground water inflow to the excavation, the contractor would need to pump out the excavation. The contractor shall deploy silt fences and hay bales to control surface water runoff and to minimize erosion. Proper stabilization and seeding the site immediately upon completion of the construction would provide beneficial vegetation to control erosion. Minimal impact is expected.

Wastewater: The proposed action would have no impact on wastewater.

Water Quality: The proposed action would have minimal impact to water quality.

Wetlands: There are no wetlands in this area. Activity in any wetlands cannot occur without a Clean Water Act section 404 permit from the Army Corps of Engineers. No dumping, filling, dredging, or changing of the wetland hydrologic structure is permitted without a permit.

4.5.3 Alternative 3

Impacts would be similar to those generated under the proposed action.

4.6 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

4.6.1 Alternative 1 (No Action)

The no action alternative would not impact wildlife, vegetation, or other biological resources.

4.6.2 Alternative 2 (Proposed Action)

Vegetation: BMPs and control measures, including covering of stockpiles and drain openings, would be implemented to ensure that impacts to biological resources be kept to a minimum. The amount of vegetation disturbed would be kept to the minimum required to complete the action. Disturbed areas should be re-established. There would be a short-term minimal loss of vegetation from construction activities. Area should remain on the grounds maintenance contract for mowing. The existing vegetation should be relocated as a design requirement of the project.

Noxious Weeds: Public law 93-629 mandates control of noxious weeds. Limit possible weed seed transport from infested areas to non-infested sites. Avoid activities in or adjacent to heavily infested areas or remove seed sources and propagules from site prior to conducting activities, or limit operations to non-seed producing seasons. Wash or otherwise remove all vegetation and soil from equipment before transporting to a new site. Mitigate activities which expose the soil by covering the area with weed seed free mulch and/or seed the area with native species. Covering the soil will reduce the germination of weed seeds, maintain soil moisture, and minimize erosion. If any fill material is used, it should be from a weed-free source.

Wildlife: Construction would have minimal impacts to wildlife. These areas provide foraging

habitat for small mammals, such as mice and rabbits. The area is improved and frequently maintained by the grounds maintenance contractor. Due to the abundance and mobility of these species and the profusion of similar landscaped areas in the general vicinity, any wildlife disturbed would be able to find similar habitat in the local area.

Threatened or Endangered Species: According to the Biological Surveys of 1994 and 2004, and bird surveys of 2001, 2004, and 2005, Grand Forks AFB has 56 bird species of concern: 1 federally threatened, 8 state threatened and endangered, 29 state species of concern, 17 USFWS birds of conservation concern, and 22 DOD partners-in-flight species. In addition, referencing the 1994 and 2004 biological surveys, there are 2 state-listed plant species, 1 state-listed mammal species, and 1 state-listed amphibian identified at GFAFB. The federally listed bird species (the Bald Eagle) has no critical habitat at GFAFB. Proposed activities should have no impact on these sensitive species, given all proposed actions are associated with buildings 168 and 120 that are located in a well traveled area.

4.6.3 Alternative 3
Impacts would be similar to those generated under the proposed action.

4.7 SOCIOECONOMIC RESOURCES

4.7.1 Alternative 1 (No Action)

The no action alternative would not impact socioeconomics.

4.7.2 Alternative 2 (Proposed Action)

Secondary retail purchases would make an additional contribution to the local communities. The implementation of the proposed action, therefore, would provide a short-term, minimal beneficial impact to local retailers during the construction phase of the project. There would be no long term impact to socioeconomic resources.

4.7.3 Alternative 3

Impacts would be similar to those generated under the proposed action.

4.8 CULTURAL RESOURCES

4.8.1 Alternative 1 (No Action)

The no action alternative would not impact cultural resources.

4.8.2 Alternative 2 (Proposed Action)

Buildings 168 and 120 are not among the buildings that are National Register eligible. The proposed action has little potential to impact cultural resources. In the unlikely event any such artifacts were discovered during the construction activities, the contractor would be instructed to

halt construction and immediately notify Grand Forks AFB civil engineers who would notify the State Historic Preservation Officer.

4.8.3 Alternative 3

Alternative impacts would be similar to those generated under the proposed action.

4.9 LAND USE

4.9.1 Alternative 1 (No Action)

The no action alternative would not have an impact on land use.

4.9.2 Alternative 2 (Proposed Action)

The proposed operation would not have an impact on this land use currently designated for community use.

4.9.3 Alternative 3

Impacts would be similar to those generated under the proposed action.

4.10 TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS

4.10.1 Alternative 1 (No Action)

The action would not impact transportation.

4.10.2 Alternative 2 (Proposed Action)

The proposed action would have minimal adverse impact to transportation systems on base due to vehicles traveling to and from building 168 and 120 during construction.

4.10.3 Alternative 3

Impacts would be similar to those generated under the proposed action.

4.11 AIRSPACE/AIRFIELD OPERATIONS

4.11.1 Alternative 1 (No Action)

The no action alternative would not impact aircraft safety or airspace compatibility.

4.11.2 Alternative 2 (Proposed Action)

The proposed action would not impact aircraft safety or airspace compatibility.

4.11.3 Alternative 3

Impacts would be similar to those generated under the proposed action.

4.12 SAFETY AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

4.12.1 Alternative 1 (No Action)

The no action alternative would not impact safety and occupational health.

4.12.2 Alternative 2 (Proposed Action)

The proposed action would have no significant impact on safety and occupational health. Participants are required to wear appropriate personnel protective equipment (PPE).

4.12.3 Alternative 3

Impacts would be similar to those generated under the proposed action.

4.13 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

4.13.1 Alternative 1 (No Action)

The no action alternative would not impact ERP Sites or geological resources.

4.13.2 Alternative 2 (Proposed Action)

ERP: The proposed action would not impact ERP Sites.

Geology: The proposed action would not impact geological resources. Soils present in the proposed area include the Gilby series.

Pesticides: No pesticides would be used during the construction of building 168 entrance.

4.13.3 Alternative 3

Impacts would be similar to those generated under the proposed action.

4.14 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

4.14.1 Alternative 1 (No Action)

The no action alternative would not impact environmental justice.

4.14.2 Alternative 2 (Proposed Action)

EO 12898 requires federal agencies to identify and address, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of their programs, policies, and activities on minority and low-income populations. There are no minority or low-income populations in the area of the proposed action or alternatives, and, thus, there would be no disproportionately high or adverse impact on such populations.

4.14.3 Alternative 3

Impacts would be similar to those generated under the proposed action.

4.15 INDIRECT AND CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

The short-term increases in air emissions and noise during construction and the impacts predicted for other resource areas, would not be significant when considered cumulatively with other ongoing and planned activities at Grand Forks AFB and nearby off-base areas. The cumulative impact of the Proposed Action or Alternative with other ongoing activities in the area would produce an increase in solid waste generation; however, the increase would be limited to the timeframe of each project. The area landfills used for construction and construction debris do not have capacity concerns, and could readily handle the solid waste generated by the various projects.

4.16 UNAVIODABLE ADVERSE IMPACTS

The proposed action and alternatives would involve the use of construction related vehicles, and their short-term impacts on noise, air quality, and traffic are unavoidable.

4.17 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SHORT-TERM USES AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

The proposed action and alternatives would involve the use of previously developed areas. No croplands, pastureland, wooded areas, or wetlands would be modified or affected as a result of implementing the Proposed Action and, consequently, productivity of the area would not be degraded.

4.18 IRREVERSIVLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENT OF RESOURCES

Under the proposed action, fuels, manpower, economic resources, and other recovery materials related to the construction of building 168 entrance addition would be irreversibly lost.

5.0 LIST OF PREPARERS

Steve Braun
USTs and Special Programs
319 CES/CEVC
525 Tuskegee Airmen Blvd
Grand Forks AFB ND 58205

Everett "Gene" Crouse
Chief, Airfield Management
319 OSS OSAA
695 Steen Blvd
Grand Forks AFB ND 58205

Diane Strom
NEPA/EIAP Program
319 CES/CEVA
525 Tuskegee Airmen Blvd
Grand Forks AFB ND 58205

Mark Hanson
Contract Attorney
319 ARW/JA
460 Steen Blvd
Grand Forks AFB ND 58205

Gary Johnson
Ground Safety Manager
319 ARW/SEG
679 4th Avenue (Ave)
Grand Forks AFB ND 58205

Chris Klaus
Water Programs Manager
319 CES/CEVC
525 Tuskegee Airmen Blvd
Grand Forks AFB ND 58205

Heidi Nelson
Community Planner
319 CES/CECP
525 Tuskegee Airmen Blvd
Grand Forks AFB ND 58205

Larry Olderbak
Environmental Restoration Manager
319 CES/CEVR
525 Tuskegee Airmen Blvd
Grand Forks AFB ND 58205

Gary Raknerud
Chief, Pollution Prevention
319 CES/CEVP
525 Tuskegee Airmen Blvd
Grand Forks AFB ND 58205

Kristen Rundquist
Natural Resources/Air Program Manager
319 CES/CEVC
525 Tuskegee Airmen Blvd
Grand Forks AFB ND 58205

Jeffrey L McClellan, 2nd LT, USAF, BSC
Bioenvironmental Engineer
Bioenvironmental Engineering Flight
319AMDS/SGGB
1599 J St
Grand Forks AFB ND 58205

6.0 LIST OF AGENCIES AND PERSONS CONSULTED AND/OR PROVIDED COPIES

Dr. Terry Dwelle
State Health Officer
North Dakota Department of Health
600 East Boulevard Ave
Bismarck, ND 58505-0200

Mr. Dean Hildebrand
Commissioner
North Dakota Game and Fish
100 North Bismarck Expressway
Bismarck, ND 58501

Mr. Jeffrey Towner
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
3425 Miriam Avenue
Bismarck ND 58501

Mr. Merlan E. Paaverud
State Historic Preservation Officer
State Historical Society of North Dakota
612 East Boulevard Ave
Bismarck ND 58505-0200

Mr. Larry Knudtson, Planning
North Dakota State Water Commission
900 E Boulevard Ave, Dept 770
Bismarck ND 58505-0850

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APPENDIX A
LOCATION MAP – GRAND FORKS AFB

Grand Forks AFB, ND

Location Map

State Boundary

APPENDIX B
CULTURAL RESOURCE PROBABILITY MAP

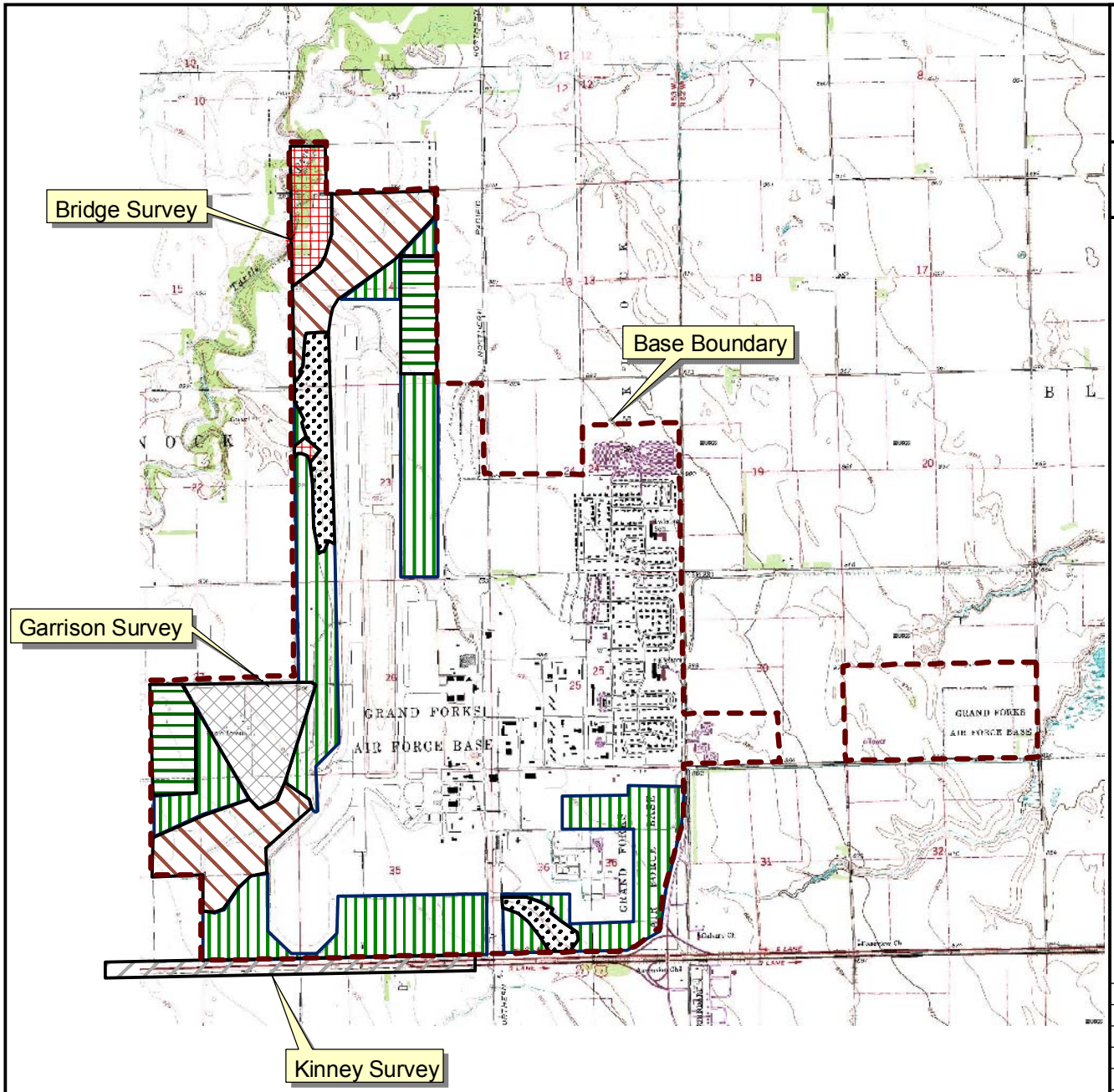

Figure 3.5
Survey Areas and Probabilities

Grand Forks Air Force Base
Cultural Resources Management Plan

Legend

- Historic Bridge Inventory Survey
- Base Boundary
- High Probability
- Medium Probability (near water)
- Kinney Survey
- Medium Probability (beach ridge)
- Peace Keeper Rail Garrison Survey
- Low Probability (distance from water)
- Low Probability (10% sample)
- Previously Disturbed

2000 0 2000 4000 Feet

Scale:	1:50000
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APPENDIX C
ENVIRONMENTAL SITE MAP

Grand Forks AFB Environmental Sites (NE)

- Above Ground Storage Tanks (Fuel)
- Abandoned Fuel Lines
- Building 622 - Acid Dip Room
- Helecopter Wash Area
- Oil/Water Separator
- Satellite Accumulation Areas (Haz Waste)
- Scrap Storage Area
- S.H.P.O. (Buildings under consideration)
- Underground Waste Storage
- Underground Storage Tanks (Fuel)
- Ditches/Streams
- IRP Sites
- Landfill Caps
- Trees

Hydrography-flood zone area

floodplain zone centroid

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08 May 01/KS

APPENDIX D
AF FORM 813

REQUEST FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

Report Control Symbol
RCS: 2005- 185

INSTRUCTIONS: *Section I to be completed by Proponent; Sections II and III to be completed by Environmental Planning Function. Continue on separate sheets as necessary. Reference appropriate item number(s).*

SECTION I - PROPONENT INFORMATION

1. TO *(Environmental Planning Function)*	2. FROM *(Proponent organization and functional address symbol)*	2a. TELEPHONE NO.
319 CES/CEVA	Major Elizabeth Demmons, 319 SVS/CC	701-747-3258

3. TITLE OF PROPOSED ACTION
Child Development Center Bldg 168 Expansion

4. PURPOSE AND NEED FOR ACTION *(Identify decision to be made and need date)*
A larger office area is needed for parents, staff, filing, work space and private office. In addition, there is a child safety issue with the entrance of the facility not in sight of front desk where staff can visually monitor the door - accredidation is jeopardized

5. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES *(DOPAA) (Provide sufficient details for evaluation of the total action.)*
Expand the reception area, entrance and the director's office area at the Child Development Center .

6. PROPONENT APPROVAL *(Name and Grade)*	6a. SIGNATURE	6b. DATE
Glenn Garrison, GS -13		22MAR05

SECTION II - PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEY. *(Check appropriate box and describe potential environmental effects including cumulative effects.) (+ = positive effect; 0 = no effect; - = adverse effect; U= unknown effect)*	+	0	-	U
7. AIR INSTALLATION COMPATIBLE USE ZONE/LAND USE *(Noise, accident potential, encroachment, etc.)*	☐	☒	☐	☐
8. AIR QUALITY *(Emissions, attainment status, state implementation plan, etc.)*	☐	☒	☐	☐
9. WATER RESOURCES *(Quality, quantity, source, etc.)*	☐	☒	☐	☐
10. SAFETY AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH *(Asbestos/radiation/chemical exposure, explosives safety quantity-distance, bird/wildlife aircraft hazard, etc.)*	☐	☒	☐	☐
11. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS/WASTE *(Use/storage/generation, solid waste, etc.)*	☐	☐	☒	☐
12. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES *(Wetlands/floodplains, threatened or endangered species, etc.)*	☐	☒	☐	☐
13. CULTURAL RESOURCES *(Native American burial sites, archaeological, historical, etc.)*	☐	☒	☐	☐
14. GEOLOGY AND SOILS *(Topography, minerals, geothermal, Installation Restoration Program, seismicity, etc.)*	☐	☒	☐	☐
15. SOCIOECONOMIC *(Employment/population projections, school and local fiscal impacts, etc.)*	☐	☒	☐	☐
16. OTHER *(Potential impacts not addressed above.)*	☐	☒	☐	☐

SECTION III - ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS DETERMINATION

17. ☐ PROPOSED ACTION QUALIFIES FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CATEX) # _____ ; OR
☒ PROPOSED ACTION DOES NOT QUALIFY FOR A CATEX; FURTHER ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS IS REQUIRED.

18. REMARKS

This action is not "regionally significant" and does not require a conformity determination in accordance with 40 CFR 93.153(1). The total emission of criteria pollutants from the proposed action are below the de minimus emissions and less than 10 percent of the Air Quality Region's planning inventory.

19. ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING FUNCTION CERTIFICATION *(Name and Grade)*		19b. DATE
WAYNE A. KOOP, R.E.M., GM-13 Environmental Management Flight Chief		3JAN06

4.0 Purpose and Need for Action, Child Development Center Bldg 168 Expansion

4.1 Purpose of the Action (mission objectives-who proposes to do what, where, when): Expand the reception area, entrance and the director's office area at the Child Development Center, Bldg 168 - expanding the directors office to the North approximately 20 feet at a width of 15 ft- to be used as a small meeting area and office-the present office area maybe large enough to maintain files and office storage-the addition would have to then include an office area for the director or an area in the expansion that would suffice as secure storage for files and the Directors desk-remain in the present area.(see photos)
The entrance needs to expand to the North approximately 20 - 30 X 15ft to allow visual monitoring without obstacles-

4.2 Need for the Action (why this action is desired or required-why here, why now): To ensure future accreditation of GFAFB CDC Program. Also, a larger office area is needed for parents, staff, filing, work space and private office. The current entrance area is offset from the reception desk, and obscures the visual supervision of the door by either the desk staff or the director. The entrance needs to be enlarged to accommodate parents and a minimum 10 infant car seats at one time. Entrance areas are to be visible and monitored by staff 100% to comply with child safety and protection policies. The entrance does not allow for parents to be able to store child infant seats, required by law for any child to ride in a vehicle. Using the current areas would block the entrance for emergency use. The director's office is in need of expansion. The director must meet with parents prior to admission to the Center and periodically during the child's enrollment. The director must also have confidential meetings with staff, requiring a private area. The director must maintain files for US Air Force and DoD and for national accreditation. Current office space remains too small for the growing requirements of the CDC.

4.3 Objectives for the Action : Provide a larger office area for parents, staff, filing, work space and private office in addition to having a functioning entrance area that can be monitored by desk staff-expanding of the Staff lounge into the present walkway would be an accomplishment in providing space for at least 10 persons to take breaks at the same time accommodate refrigerator/micro wave and table

4.4 Related EISs/EAs and other documents (similar projects in the past): A walkway/entrance was constructed in 1998 to

4.5 Decision that must be made: Expand the reception area, entrance and the directors office area at the CDC .

4.6 Applicable Regulatory Requirements and Required Coordination-- required permits, licenses, entitlements: Submit a Work Clearance Request, Storm water Protection Plan, Dust Control Plan, Spill Control Plan, Erosion and Sediment Control Plan to the CEV Water Program Manager and Contracting Officer.

5.0 Description of Proposed Action and Alternatives

5.1 Description of the proposed action (in brief, introduction): Expand the reception area, entrance and the directors office at the CDC

5.2 Selection criteria for Alternatives

5.2.1 Minimum mission requirements: effectiveness, time, cost, legal, safety, efficiency.

5.2.2 Minimum environmental standards : noise, air, water, safety, HW, vegetation, cultural, geology, soils, socioeconomic standards at Grand Forks AFB.

5.3 Alternatives Considered but Eliminated from Detailed Study:

5.4 Description of proposed alternatives

5.4.1 No-action alternative: No expansion will be constructed. Clients and staff will continue to work in a crowded area. The major concern is the CDC will loose National Association for the Education of Young Children accreditation which is mandated by AFIs and is also a DoD requirement

5.4.2 Proposed Action: Expand the reception area, entrance and the director's office area at the Child Development Center .

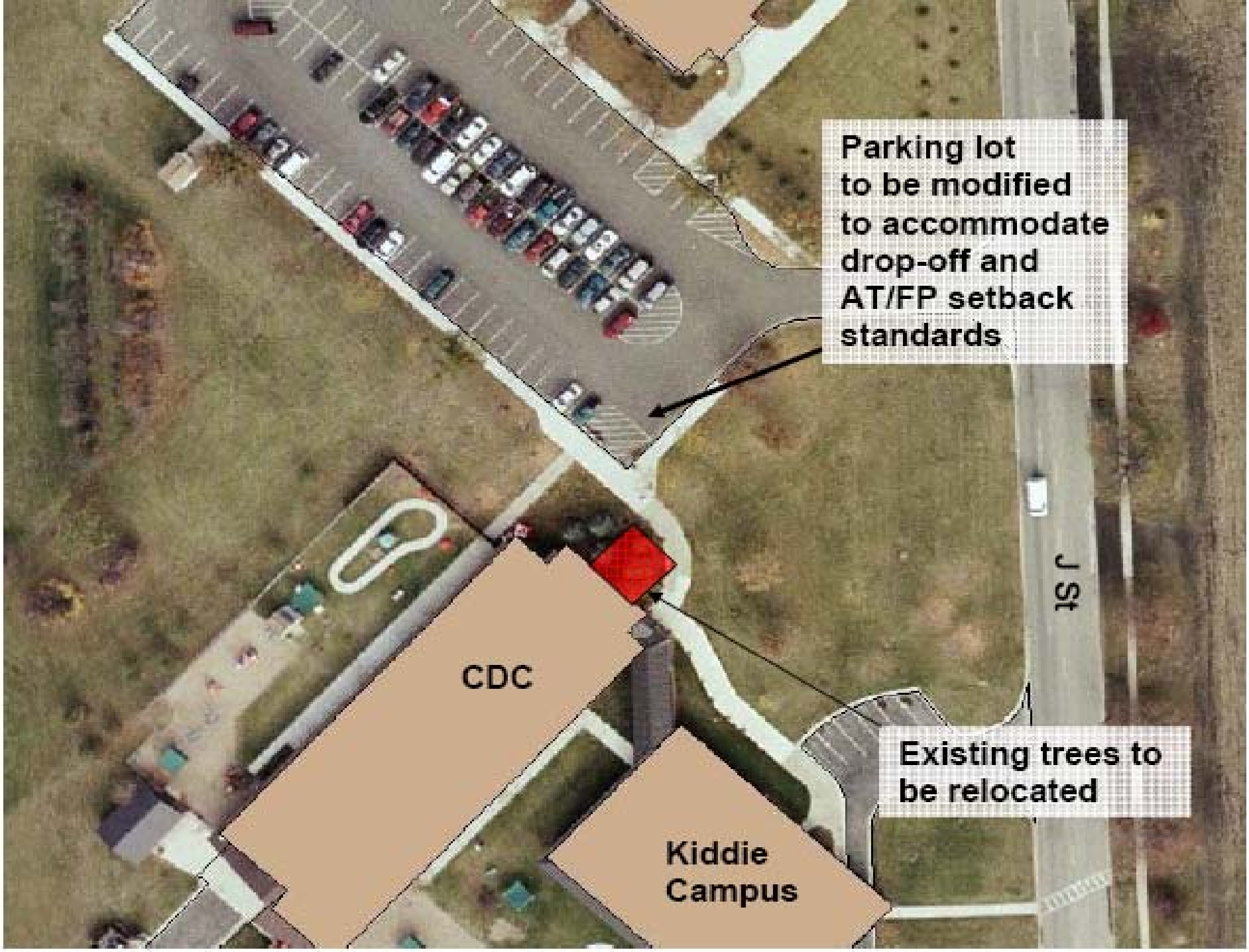
5.4.3 Another Reasonable Action Alternative: None available at this time

5.5 Description of Past and Reasonably Foreseeable Future Actions Relevant to Cumulative Impacts: There are several other construction and demolition projects on GFAFB in the same time frame. These projects are under separate NEPA documents.

5.6 Recommendation of preferred alternative: Expand the reception area, entrance and the director's office area at the Child Development Center.

APPENDIX E
LOCATION MAP OF BUILDING 168 and 120


SITE
CDC
Kiddie
Campus
J St


Parking lot
to be modified
to accommodate
drop-off and
AT/FP setback
standards
J St
CDC
Existing trees to
be relocated
Kiddie
Campus

APPENDIX F
PHOTOGRAPHS

APPENDIX G
PUBLIC NOTICE AND INTERAGENCY RESPONSE

3600

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA } SS.
COUNTY OF GRAND FORKS }

Byron of said State and County being first duly sworn, on oath says:

That { she / he } is { a representative of the GRAND FORKS HERALD, INC.,

publisher of the Grand Forks Herald, Morning Edition, a daily newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in the City of Grand Forks, in said County and State, and has been during the time hereinafter mentioned, and that the advertisement of

entry for Child Dev. Center

a printed copy of which is hereto annexed, was printed and published in every copy of the following issues of said newspaper, for a period of 2 time (s) to wit:

1-19	Yr. 06		Yr.
1-21	Yr. 06		Yr.
	Yr.		Yr.
	Yr.		Yr.

and that the full amount of the fee for the publication of the annexed notice inures solely to the benefit of the publishers of said newspaper; that no agreement or understanding for a division thereof has been made with any other person and that no part thereof has been agreed to be paid to any person whomsoever and the amount of said fee is $ 18.96 ;

That said newspaper was, at the time of the aforesaid publication, the duly elected and qualified Official Newspaper within said County, and qualified in accordance with the law of the State of North Dakota to do legal printing in said County and State.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 27 day of Jan A.D. 06

Notary Public, Grand Forks, ND

ELA[illegible] - WCETT
[illegible] PUBLIC
STATE [illegible] NORTH DAKOTA
My Commis[illegible] ires: Feb. 7, 2007

Publication Fee $ 18.96

AIR FORCE BASE
PUBLIC NOTICE

Grand Forks Air Force Base has proposed the construction of an entry and administrative area for the Child Development Center here.

An environmental assessment has been conducted and a finding of no significant impact has been determined for this action.

Anyone wishing to view the support documents to this action should contact the 319th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs Office within the next 30 days at 747-5017 or 747-5608.

(January 19 & 21, 2006)

News Briefs

School board meeting

Grand Forks and Grand Forks Air Force Base School Districts will hold a public forum Jan. 23, in the South Middle School cafeteria at 7:00 p.m.

The topics will focus on secondary school program issues, such as raising graduation credit requirements, considering common grading scales, developing additional interventions for struggling students, and restructuring the ninth grade experience.

The forum is open to the public. Individuals interested in receiving background materials before the forum can contact Cindy Johnson at 787-4880 or by email at cindy.johnson@gfschools.org.

CDC construction notice

Grand Forks Air Force Base has proposed the construction of an entry and administrative area for the Child Development Center here.

An environmental assessment has been conducted and a finding of no significant impact has been determined for this action.

Anyone wishing to view the support documents to this action should contact the 319th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs Office within the next 30 days at 747-5017 or 747-5608.

Upcoming Family Support Center "Building Strong Families" Series

Discover your family's strengths
Learn to build on them
Work with others to:
Face your challenges
Make choices
Meet personal goals

"Child Self Care"

Learn developmental signs of readiness and maturity in a child that signal the ability to stay at home alone to meet the challenge of self care.
Jan. 24 9:30 to 11 a.m.

For more information or to register call the FSC at 747-3241.

Flu vaccine update

The immunizations clinic is now accepting all TRICARE Prime beneficiaries wanting the Flu shot. Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. or 1 to 4 p.m. and Wednesdays 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. or 1 to 4 p.m. No shot record is required. The clinic is closed federal holidays, wing down days and wing training days.

Q: Every time I get a vaccine I get sick. Is it from the vaccine?

A: Some people feel symptoms because their immune system is recognizing and responding to the vaccine.

Q: My child had to get two flu vaccines last year. Does she need two again this year?

A: No. Two vaccines spaced about a month apart are recommended the first year a child ever receives the flu immunization.

Q: Is it too late to receive the flu vaccine?

A: No. Flu season runs until April. Getting vaccinated as late as March or April is still beneficial. Of course, receiving your vaccine earlier in the season is better than later.

Q: Will this vaccine protect me from bird flu?

A: No. Flu vaccines typically contain inactivated viruses that were most commonly seen in the previous year's flu season.

Q: Do antiviral medications work on colds too?

A: No. Antiviral medicines only decrease the number of days you are sick with the flu. You must begin taking them within two days of the onset of your symptoms.

The latest flu vaccine updates are available on the Med. group's phone system at (701)747-5601. For more information contact the immunizations clinic at 747-5451 or visit the Centers for Disease Control at www.cdc.gov.

NEW & USED CARS | NEW & USED CARS | NEW & USED CARS | NEW & USED CARS | SPORT UTILITY | SPORT UTILITY | SPORT UTILITY

1998 HONDA Civic, | **2003 CAVALIER,** 4 | **2006 CHEVY** Aveo LS | **BEAUTIFUL WHITE** | **1992 FORD** Explorer, | **1996 GMC** Jimmy | **2003 CHEVY** Trail-

Public Notices

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ment and material removed will become the property of the contractor.
To inspect this project, contact Bagley Public Utilities at 218-694-2300. Sealed bids should be submitted by close of business (4:30 P.M.) on Friday, January 27, 2006 to Bagley Public Utilities, 18 S. Main Avenue, Bagley, MN 56621.
(January 19, 21, 24, & 26, 2006)

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING
The Grand Forks Cemetery Association will hold its Annual Meeting on Monday, January 30, 2006, at 7:00 p.m. at the Best Western Townhouse, 710 1st Ave. North, Grand Forks, North Dakota for such business as may come before the meeting. Registration will begin at 6:30 p.m. on the same date.
Stacey L. Purcell
Secretary
(January 19, 2006)

AIR FORCE BASE PUBLIC NOTICE
Grand Forks Air Force Base has proposed the construction of an entry and administrative area for the Child Development Center here.
An environmental assessment has been conducted and a finding of no significant impact has been determined for this action.
Anyone wishing to view the support documents to this action should contact the 319th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs Office within the next 30 days at 747-5017 or 747-5608.
(January 19 & 21, 2006)

LUTION OF NECESSITY
ict No. 607 (Project No. 5702)

s received and considered the report of the city engineer as to the gen-mprovements in and for Paving District No. 607, designated as Project work, and approves the report and directs it to be filed in the city audi-e it, and directs the engineer to prepare detailed plans and specifica-ines that it is necessary to make the improvement as described in the

vement of the municipal street system serving the district by paving.

eet to Ruemmele Road.

assessments for the improvement shall be levied upon properties with-, to-wit:

Ruemmele Road, Lots 10, A, B and C, Block 2, Perkins 4th Addition 20th Avenue South on the east. This area includes Lots 10-25, A, 3rd Addition; Perkins 5th Addition; Perkins 6th Resubdivision; ion and Columbia Park 29th Resubdivision; an area south of 40th ay on the north, 20th Avenue South on the east, 140 ft. north of an area running west of Columbia Road for about 180 ft. and back platted strip 140 ft. wide and approximately 80 ft. long west of and k 1, Southern Estates First Addition and Block 2, Southern Estates p. 151 North, Range 50 West; an unplatted strip 190 ft. wide and jacent to Columbia Road, south of the Southend Drainway in the 50 West; an unplatted strip of the northerly 180 ft. of the easterly 180 ft. of NW Quarter SE Quarter of Section 20, Twp. 151 North, d into Southern Estates 2nd and less R/W and the easterly 140 ft. Road south of the Southend Drainway for about 80 ft.

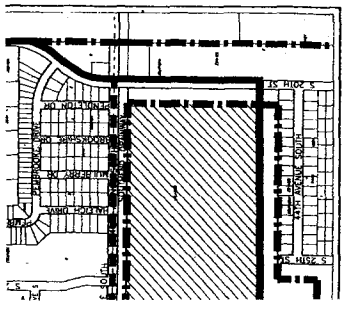
ct in the N Half of the SW Half of Section 21, Twp. 151 North, Range Southend Drainway, 140 ft. west of South 20th Street on the east, rth 140 ft. from Southern Estates 3rd Addition on the south, and a lf of Section 20, Twp. 151 North, Range 50 West all in the 5th P.M. th of the Southend Drainway, 190 ft. west of Columbia Road run-50 ft.

re cost, except such part not exceeding one-fifth as the city council may the levy of special assessments upon such properties in amounts pro-eived by them from the improvement, as determined by the Special earings as required by law.

olution shall be published once each week for two consecutive weeks its regular meeting to be held March 6, 2006, hear and determine the operty within the district may file with the city auditor within thirty days

he City of Grand Forks, North Dakota, this 3rd day of January, 2006.
John M. Schmisek, City Auditor

Michael R. Brown, Mayor



From: Schumacher, John D. [jdschumacher@state.nd.us]
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2006 9:45 AM
To: Strom, Diane Civ 319 CES/CEVA
Cc: Dyke, Steve R.
Subject: RE: Review of EA and FONSI for Grand Forks AFB

The North Dakota Game and Fish Department has reviewed this project for wildlife concerns. We do not believe it will have any significant adverse affects on wildlife or wildlife habitat, including endangered species, based on the information provided.

Sincerely,
John Schumacher
Resource Biologist
NDGFD
jdschumacher@nd.gov

From: Strom, Diane Civ 319 CES/CEVA [mailto:Diane.Strom@grandforks.af.mil]
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2006 10:42 AM
To: Leier, Joleen M.; Boyd, James R.; McMahon, Carole B.; jeffrey_towner@fws.gov; Picha, Paul R.; Steinwand, Terry R.; Swenson, Fern E.; Cain, Cindy C.; Glatt, Dave D.; Marie_Nelson@fws.gov; Paaverud, Merl E.; Knudtson, Larry J.; Dyke, Steve R.; Dwelle, Terry L.
Subject: Review of EA and FONSI for Grand Forks AFB

The U.S. Air Force is preparing an environmental assessment (EA) on the construction of a Child Development Center entry and administrative addition. Attached is a copy of the draft EA and FONSI. Please review the document and identify any additional resources within your agency's responsibility that may be impacted by the action. Comments should be sent to me at the address below.

Your assistance in providing information is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please call the number below.

Sincerely,
Diane M. Strom
Environmental Impact Analysis Program
319 CES/CEVA, Room 128
525 Tuskegee Airmen Blvd
Grand Forks AFB ND 58205-6434
Phone (701) 747-6394
FAX (701) 747-6155
Diane.Strom@grandforks.af.mil

Strom Diane Civ 319 CES/CEVA

From: Terry_Ellsworth@fws.gov
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2006 10:09 AM
To: Strom, Diane Civ 319 CES/CEVA
Cc: Jeffrey_Towner@fws.gov
Subject: Fw: Review of EA and FONSI for Grand Forks AFB

Attachments: EA draft.pdf

EA draft.pdf

Diane,

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the FONSI and EA for the CDC Main Entry Addition at Grand Forks Air Force Base. The proposed project will have minimal impacts to fish and wildlife resources and will not affect threatened and endangered species therefore the US Fish and Wildlife Service has no objection to the construction of the preferred alterative.

Terry Ellsworth
North Dakota Ecological Services Field Office
3425 Miriam Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58501

Office (701) 355-8505
Fax (701) 355-8513
Terry_Ellsworth@fws.gov
----- Forwarded by Terry Ellsworth/R6/FWS/DOI on 02/24/2006 10:04 AM -----

Jeffrey Towner
02/24/2006 09:26 AM
To: Terry Ellsworth/R6/FWS/DOI@FWS
cc:
Subject: Fw: Review of EA and FONSI for Grand Forks AFB

Terry:

Would you please take a look at this. If it is minor and we have no objection, consider using the no impact stamp.

Jeffrey K. Towner, Field Supervisor
Ecological Services
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
3425 Miriam Avenue
Bismarck ND 58501
Telephone: 701-250-4481 ext. 508
Fax: 701-355-8513
----- Forwarded by Jeffrey Towner/R6/FWS/DOI on 02/24/2006 09:29 AM -----

"Strom, Diane Civ 319 CES/CEVA" <Diane.Strom@gra
To <joleier@state.nd.us>,

ndforks.af.mil> <jboyd@state.nd.us>,
<carole.mcmahon@gfcounty.com>,
02/23/2006 10:41 <jeffrey_towner@fws.gov>,
AM <ppicha@state.nd.us>,
<tsteinwa@state.nd.us>,
<fswenson@state.nd.us>,
<ccain@state.nd.us>,
<dglatt@state.nd.us>,
<Marie_Nelson@fws.gov>,
<mpaaverud@state.nd.us>,
<lknudtson@state.nd.us>,
<sdyke@state.nd.us>,
<tdwelle@state.nd.us>
cc

Subject
Review of EA and FONSI for Grand Forks AFB

The U.S. Air Force is preparing an environmental assessment (EA) on the construction of a Child Development Center entry and administrative addition. Attached is a copy of the draft EA and FONSI. Please review the document and identify any additional resources within your agency's responsibility that may be impacted by the action. Comments should be sent to me at the address below.

Your assistance in providing information is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please call the number below.

Sincerely,
Diane M. Strom
Environmental Impact Analysis Program
319 CES/CEVA, Room 128
525 Tuskegee Airmen Blvd
Grand Forks AFB ND 58205-6434
Phone (701) 747-6394
FAX (701) 747-6155
Diane.Strom@grandforks.af.mil

(See attached file: EA draft.pdf)

North Dakota
Department of Commerce

Community Services

Economic
Development & Finance

Tourism

Workforce Development

A *New* STATE OF BUSINESS
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Department of Commerce

Century Center

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Fax 701-328-5320

www.ndcommerce.com

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

February 23, 2006

Diane M. Strom
Dept. of the Air Force
319 CES/CEVA
525 Tuskegee Airmen Blvd
Grand Forks AFB, ND 58205-6434

"Letter of Clearance" In Conformance with the North Dakota Federal Program Review System - State Application Identifier No.: ND060223-0057

Dear Mr. Strom:

SUBJECT: FONSI - Construction of CDC Main Entry Addition

The above referenced FONSI has been reviewed through the North Dakota Federal Program Review Process. As a result of the review, clearance is given to the project only with respect to this consultation process.

If the proposed project changes in duration, scope, description, budget, location or area of impact, from the project description submitted for review, then it is necessary to submit a copy of the completed application to this office for further review.

We also request the opportunity for complete review of applications for renewal or continuation grants within one year after the date of this letter.

Please use the above SAI number for reference to the above project with this office. Your continued cooperation in the review process is much appreciated.

Sincerely,

James R Boyd

James R. Boyd
Manager of Governmental Services
Division of Community Services

bb

Rec 28Feb06

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF NORTH DAKOTA

March 21, 2006

Ms. Diane M. Strom
Environmental Impact Analysis Program
319 CES/CEVA, Room 128
525 Tuskegee Airmen Blvd
Grand Forks AFB ND 58205-6434

ND SHPO97-0527X: Draft Final Environmental Assessment for Child Development Center Entry and Administrative Addition Grand Forks Air Force Base, North Dakota

Dear Ms. Strom;

We reviewed **ND SHPO97-0527X: Draft Final Environmental Assessment for Child Development Center Entry and Administrative Addition Grand Forks Air Force Base, North Dakota** and concur with a "No Historic Properties Affected" determination, provided the project is of the nature specified and takes place in the legal description outlined and mapped in the draft report. Any borrow fill, gravel or dirt must come from an approved source.

If you have any questions please contact Susan Quinnell, at (701) 328-3576 or squinnell@state.nd.us

Sincerely,

Merlan E. Paaverud, Jr.
State Historic Preservation Officer (North Dakota)

North Dakota Heritage Center • 612 East Boulevard Avenue, Bismarck, ND 58505-0830 • Phone 701-328-2666 • Fax: 701-328-3710
Email: histsoc@state.nd.us • Web site: http://www.nd.gov/hist• TTY: 1-800-366-6888

Rec 27 Mar 06

NORTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT of HEALTH

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION
Gold Seal Center, 918 E. Divide Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58501-1947
701.328.5200 (fax)
www.ndhealth.gov

March 1, 2006

Ms. Diane Strom
Environmental Impact Analysis Program
319 CES/CEVA, Room 128
525 Tuskegee Airmen Blvd.
Grand Forks AFB, ND 58205-6434

Re: Draft EA for Construction of a Child Development Center Entry and Administrative Addition
Grand Forks Air Force Base, Grand Forks County

Dear Ms. Strom:

This department has reviewed the information concerning the above-referenced project submitted under date of February 23, 2006, with respect to possible environmental impacts.

1. All necessary measures must be taken to minimize fugitive dust emissions created during construction activities. Any complaints that may arise are to be dealt with in an efficient and effective manner.

2. All necessary measures must be taken to minimize the disturbance of any asbestos-containing material and to prevent any asbestos fiber release episodes. Any facility that is to be renovated or demolished must be inspected for asbestos. Notification of the Department's Division of Air Quality (701-328-5188) is required before any demolition. Removal of any friable asbestos-containing material must be accomplished in accordance with section 33-15-13-02 of the North Dakota air pollution control rules.

3. Noise from construction activities may have adverse effects on persons who live near the construction area. Noise levels can be minimized by ensuring that construction equipment is equipped with a recommended muffler in good working order. Noise effects can also be minimized by ensuring that construction activities are not conducted during early morning or late evening hours.

4. Many buildings constructed prior to 1978 have interior and exterior surfaces coated with lead-based paint. The Office of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), as well as other Federal Housing Authorities, have implemented requirements for reducing exposure to lead from lead-based paint. If the building is under the control of a Federal Agency,

Rec 3 Mar 06

these materials must be handled according to their requirements which may include the use of properly trained individuals for removal and disposal. If the building is not under the control of a Federal Agency, the lead-based paint should be properly handled to reduce or prevent exposing workers and building occupants to lead.

The department owns no land in or adjacent to the proposed improvements, nor does it have any projects scheduled in the area. In addition, we believe the proposed activities are consistent with the State Implementation Plan for the Control of Air Pollution for the State of North Dakota.

If you have any questions regarding our comments, please feel free to contact this office.

Sincerely,

L. David Glatt, P.E., Chief
Environmental Health Section

LDG:cc
Attach.

NORTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT of HEALTH

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION
Gold Seal Center, 918 E. Divide Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58501-1947
701.328.5200 (fax)
www.ndhealth.gov

Construction and Environmental Disturbance Requirements

These represent the minimum requirements of the North Dakota Department of Health. They ensure that minimal environmental degradation occurs as a result of construction or related work which has the potential to affect the waters of the State of North Dakota. All projects will be designed and implemented to restrict the losses or disturbances of soil, vegetative cover, and pollutants (chemical or biological) from a site.

Soils

Prevent the erosion of exposed soil surfaces and trapping sediments being transported. Examples include, but are not restricted to, sediment dams or berms, diversion dikes, hay bales as erosion checks, riprap, mesh or burlap blankets to hold soil during construction, and immediately establishing vegetative cover on disturbed areas after construction is completed. Fragile and sensitive areas such as wetlands, riparian zones, delicate flora, or land resources will be protected against compaction, vegetation loss, and unnecessary damage.

Surface Waters

All construction which directly or indirectly impacts aquatic systems will be managed to minimize impacts. All attempts will be made to prevent the contamination of water at construction sites from fuel spillage, lubricants, and chemicals, by following safe storage and handling procedures. Stream bank and stream bed disturbances will be controlled to minimize and/or prevent silt movement, nutrient upsurges, plant dislocation, and any physical, chemical, or biological disruption. The use of pesticides or herbicides in or near these systems is forbidden without approval from this Department.

Fill Material

Any fill material placed below the high water mark must be free of top soils, decomposable materials, and persistent synthetic organic compounds (in toxic concentrations). This includes, but is not limited to, asphalt, tires, treated lumber, and construction debris. The Department may require testing of fill materials. All temporary fills must be removed. Debris and solid wastes will be removed from the site and the impacted areas restored as nearly as possible to the original condition.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

HEADQUARTERS 319TH AIR REFUELING WING (AMC)
GRAND FORKS AIR FORCE BASE, NORTH DAKOTA

29 March 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR 319 CES/CEVA

FROM: 319 ARW/JA

SUBJECT: Legal Review – Grand Forks AFB Environmental Assessment and FONSI for Construction of a Main Entry Addition to Child Development Center

1. Based upon my review the proposed Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) complies with 32 CFR part 989 and is legally sufficient.

2. 32 CFR §. 989.14 states an EA must discuss the need for the proposed action, reasonable alternatives to the proposed action, the affected environment, the environmental impacts of the proposed action and alternatives (including the ``no action" alternative), and a listing of agencies and persons consulted during preparation. The EA meets these requirements and follows the alternatives analysis guidance outlined in Sec. 989.8.

3. If you have any questions about these comments, please contact the undersigned at 7-3606.

MARK W. HANSON, GS-12, DAF
Chief, General Law